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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18TH, 2012

The Glenbrook Inn celebrates 30 years!
Page 18

Cowbridge Food & Drink Festival

Cowbridge Food & Drink Festival Preview
October 27-28, 2012
See 8-Page Feature Inside

Gwyl Bwyd a Diod Y Bont-Faen

See our website for more GEM sport!

WAITROSE OPENING IS A STEP NEARER!

ABOVE (left to right): Roger Bird; Peter Stanton (contracts manager for Kier Construction); Heather Brock; Owain James (site manager); Diana Bird; Julian Anderson (project manager); Jeff Bird; and Sam Allen (business development manager for Kier). **PHOTOGRAPH by MIKE WILCOCK.**

THE opening of a Waitrose foodstore in Cowbridge took another step forward this week.

Kier Construction, who built the foodstore and all the associated infrastructure, officially handed the site back to RS Bird Ltd – and the Bird family turned out for the ceremony.

Jeff Bird told The GEM that he was "delighted" with the quality of the development.

He said: "I am particularly pleased that it feels so rural, with so many trees surrounding the site."

He added that the extensive use of Vale stonework had meant that it has stayed in keeping with the look of the town.

Waitrose's shopfitters have been in the building for a while, but the handover means that the company can now bring in staff to prepare for the store's opening date of November 1.

Julian Anderson of Kier Construction said that finishing the project on time had been quite an achievement, considering the amount of rain that had fallen in June and August.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 7)

Tenovus ladies are going for bust with the 'big bra wave'

VOLUNTEERS at Tenovus in Cowbridge are planning to make a spectacle of themselves tomorrow (Friday) by joining the charity's 'Big Bra Wave' event.

The charity shop took part last year and staff there are determined to make it bigger and better this year.

The shop manager, Sharonmarie Salthouse, told The GEM: "We are trying to get as many ladies as possible to form a huge chain down both sides of Cowbridge High Street – all waving our bras at the same time – tomorrow (Friday, October 19) at 1pm.

"At that time, Alan John from Arthur John's will be driving a tractor down the High Street – and the tractor will be wearing a huge bra, handmade by Ireen Daniels, one of our volunteers.

"Tenovus' Natural Beauty winner, Sharon Gardner, will be making an appearance, and we will be holding a huge homemade cake sale all afternoon.

"We are having a very special 'Bra cake' made by Marilyn (one of our valued customers) and this will be raffled on the day.

"Some of our local students will be helping us do a bucket collection."

She continued: "We also have the our 'Peg a Bra window'. Anyone can either bring a bra along, or use one of our donated ones, write a message on one of our special tags, (this can be a message of support, or in memory of someone they have lost to breast cancer), and have it displayed in the window, for a donation of £1.

"We have family and friends all over the country and abroad who will be waving a bra, at the same time as us, to show their support.

"Last year we were dared by my sister, who lives in Blackpool, and can see us on the high street's live web feed, to wave our bras in the air and she said she would sponsor us.

"This year, we have included all our shops and at the same time, we will all be doing the Bra Wave.

"We hope this will become our unique-to-Tenovus annual event, growing stronger each year. Who knows? Maybe one day all the ladies of Wales will stand proud and wave their bras in the air at the same time, making the biggest Bra Wave in history!

"We have a vision that perhaps Welsh newsreaders will wave a bra to support us, making this a televised event.

"This will not only promote awareness, but give everyone a sense of unity in our fight against breast cancer."

Sharonmarie reflected: "Breast cancer affects so many people. I lost my own mum 14 years ago to the day that we will be holding our Bra Wave, and it makes it even more special for me, as my daughter will be travelling all the way from Manchester to take part."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

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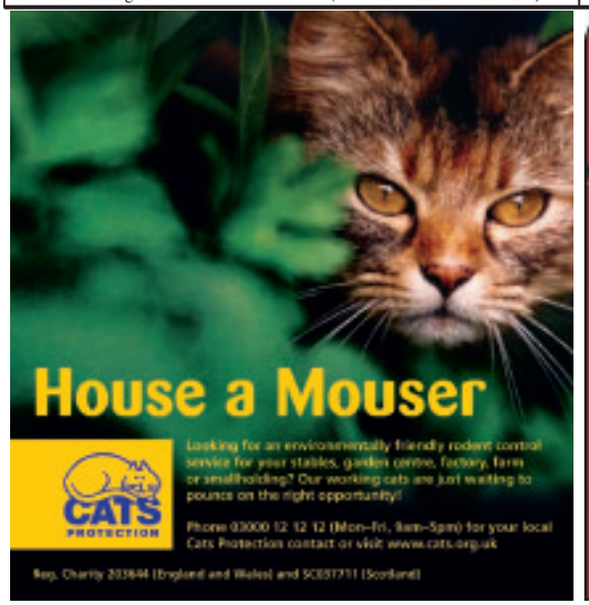

LDP: 'Putting the record straight'

IN response to recent articles and letters, I would like to assure residents that the Labour group in the Vale of Glamorgan are continuing with the process of drawing up a new draft Local Deposit Plan (LDP), to be put out for consultation to the public and interested parties, and a full announcement will be made in around two weeks' time.

It was clear that the plan put out by the Conservative council at the beginning of the year was flawed and not acceptable to the majority of residents.

From speaking to people, the consultation process was inadequate – with most individuals not knowing about the existence of the plan and what building was being proposed on their doorstep.

Also, anyone who attempted to feed back their opinion during the consultation was confronted by ridiculously-complicated forms and technical terminology.

Labour intend to produce a plan that has been properly thought through and goes out for full consultation with the residents of the Vale of Glamorgan, and I ask people to please be patient and not believe the scaremongering that has been in the press recently.

The LDP is a very important document that sets out the plans for the Vale for the next 15 years, not only for housing, but for industry and our infrastructure too – and we don't want to rush the process and get it wrong.

Claire Curtis, Barry
(Labour councillor for Dyfan ward)

Twisting logic from A to B...

THE Lib Dems in the UK Government wish to introduce a 'Mansion Tax' as one method to ensure that multi-millionaires contribute a more reasonable proportion of their wealth to the common purse.

The Tories, their partners in the Coalition, declare that they are eager that the rich should pay their 'fair share', and that they are 'not against' the Mansion Tax – but that the reason why they oppose its introduction is their fear that, once it has been set up, the tax might be extended to people who live in ordinary houses.

This is a very famous form of argument, known as the '*Slippery Slope Argument*' … when I declare that I am against A, not because I am against A, but because A might be turned to B.

The Ancient Greeks exposed the irrationality of the argument, and the motives behind it...

Anyone who is opposed to B, should fight against it, if ever someone, so far unstated, seeks to promote it. That cannot be an objection, at this time, to A.

Honest or intelligent people never use such an argument.

We are all in a position daily to observe the gross hypocrisy of the mental and emotional attitudes behind such arguments.

George Osborne parades his bogus sympathy for the shift worker, who should deeply resent, according to him, those people who recently were his working colleagues, but have since been made unemployed through no fault of their own.

Once you have been taken in by such blatant and shameless deceit, you may have lost the ability to think rationally.

CN Westerman, Brynna.

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We will (in certain circumstances) protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7E OR email gemeditorial@tindlenews. co.uk

Questions remain over council's LDP 'broken promise'

A RECENT article in The GEM showed how the Vale of Glamorgan Council had broken their promise on scrapping the Local Development Plan (LDP).

The VOGC cabinet minister responsible for planning denied that this was the case, but the evidence shown by the Freedom of Information request I made, clearly shows that they were only seeking to make 'focused changes' – rather than scrapping the LDP as per their promise in the Labour advert in The GEM back in April.

In defence, Coun Burnett said there had been discussions involving council officers and Assembly counterparts before the meeting in August between ministers, councillors and planners.

I do not accept this to be the case, because the FOI request published all communications from meetings, letter and emails on all planning matters relating to the LDP over the last 12-month period.

I truly hope that I'm wrong in this assertion and that the VOGC were true to their promise. The only way to dispel the doubt would be to publish any papers that would demonstrate that the VOGC asked to scrap the LDP.

For the thousands of people who got together in community meetings to object to the LDP and who made representations regarding their serious concerns to the Vale Council, I have published the evidence I have uncovered on my website *www.alun-cairns.co.uk* for all to see.

Unless there is evidence to the contrary, people will feel let down and it will be difficult for the new administration to recover from this.

Alun Cairns
MP for the Vale of Glamorgan

(SEE MORE LETTERS ON THIS SUBJECT ON PAGE 29)

'Who will care for abandoned horses?'

TODAY (October 15) was a different Monday afternoon; I was coming out of school and I saw 17 horses on our school tennis court.

There are 13 adult horses and four foals. These horses were put there on Saturday evening in the loose field, until some kind villagers rounded them up and put them in the tennis court for safety.

They have gone without food or drink the whole of Sunday, although some other children gave them food and drink that evening.

As I live in Cowbridge, I didn't know about this until today, although if I did know earlier, I would have been down there in a flash. I feel strongly that these horses don't deserve to live like that and they should have the right to be set free and life in a safe, caring environment.

What will happen to them if they continue to live like this?

I am really upset that this has happened as I am a big animal lover.

We don't live like this, so why should they?

Had it not been for the kind villagers and my teacher, they could have been in a bad accident, or could have even died.

Because they don't have a voice, we are their voice – so please let those animals be treated kindly and fairly.

The question is, who will help?

Ella Jones (aged 11), Cowbridge.

'Cars can kill'

YESTERDAY, I was merrily cycling up a road in Penarth, where there was only enough room for one vehicle to pass.

There were cars parked on both sides of the road, which was full of potholes, and I saw in my mirror (something that all bicycles should have, in my opinion) two cars coming up behind me.

They did not slow down and one came very close. I got a fright. The driver stopped and said that I wobbled in the road, that he was only going 20mph, and that I was "an idiot".

Surely, though, they should have slowed down and waited until it was safe to pass? I have been knocked off my bike already. We cyclists are human and if you bang into us, we bleed and break. We are not just bicycles that can be replaced easily. Please see us and take care.... *CARS KILL!*

Michael Batty (aged 59), Barry

Is Wales closed for business?

IN response to a letter in last week's GEM, headed '*What happened to those Vale jobs?*'– all I can see from my point of view, is doors closing and nothing opening in Wales.

Perhaps the 'closed for business' sign needs to be hung on the Severn Bridge toll gate. Indeed, I would love to hear from the Welsh Government about where these so-called jobs are.

I listened to the First Minister quite clearly stating that there would be no compulsory redundancies in the Welsh NHS two years ago and I thought I was safe. Now, having been made compulsorily redundant from Cardiff and Vale NHS, like others I eagerly await the jobs coming to St Athan.

At least 250, quoted by Mrs Edwina Hart earlier this year (in The GEM) would be advertised by July 2012. I maintain a vigil on the website to look for these promised jobs, and find there is not even a link working properly. (Similar to issues with the Matrix project),.

We are now in October, and I would like to ask the Welsh Government – where are these jobs?

Was this yet another election promise that is not going to materialise?

What are the Welsh Government's plans for jobs in Wales? I have applied for many job vacancies and find that employers are not looking for staff at management level and apparently managers do not have the skills to pick and pack Christmas gifts.

I need a job, Mr Jones – otherwise, like many others, I will be forced out of my homeland to find work, because the Welsh Government seems only to talk about jobs and makes empty promises.

J Rogers,
Llantwit Major

Credit goes to Chris!

AS residents of Ogmore-by-Sea, we are looking forward to our community bonfire and fireworks display on Saturday, November 3.

We are sure it will be as spectacular as the previous four years and would like to draw your attention to the efforts of the person who has almost single-handedly organised the entire event. Proceeds of this event are distributed among local charities and organisations.

We would just like to give Chris Taylor the recognition and support he deserves for all the hard work he has devoted in his spare time after work for the enjoyment of our local communities.

Mrs JC Vincent-Smith, Ogmore-by-Sea

'ASSEMBLY MUST HAVE A STAKE IN THE AIRPORT'

CARDIFF Airport is facing tough times. Passenger numbers have slumped from two million to just over one million as airlines have pulled out.

At the same time, Bristol Airport is booming and now carries more passengers to and from Wales than Cardiff Airport.

Yet most people in south Wales would use Cardiff instead, if prices were more competitive and if there was a wider range of destinations.

What is obvious is that we cannot have a viable economy in south Wales without a fully functioning international airport.

It is clear to most observers that current owners Abertis have had little interest in developing the airport.

They have stakes in almost 30 airports across the globe and Cardiff is very low down on their priorities.

A new business route between Cardiff and Dusseldorf looks set to be announced and this is welcome; but the airport desperately needs to secure at least one popular low-cost tourist airline.

The main aim must be to see more city names up on the airport departure board by this time next year.

We need political leadership and that is why I support calls by the Leader of the Party of Wales, Leanne Wood, for the Welsh Government to take a stake in Cardiff Airport. It was publicly owned in the past and now is the time for action to save our airport.

We cannot allow Cardiff Airport to wither on the vine and must secure its future and restore the sense of pride that people in the Vale used to have in the facility.

Luke Nicholas
(Plaid Cymru, the Party of Wales)
Parliamentary by-election candidate for Cardiff south & Penarth (including Sully and Llandough)

Council houses: 'Llantwit will *not* be missed out'

IN response to E Martin's letter in The GEM (October 11), I can advise that while there are no works in Llantwit Major in the first six-month phase of the programme, contractors will be on site from April 2013 in this area, and will continue to do so up until the end of the refurbishment programme in April 2017.

One of the reasons why the council appointed four external contractors to undertake this programme of works, in addition to our own building services department, was to spread the improvements across the entire Vale area and not just concentrated in one area.

Therefore, ALL communities across the Vale have some form of improvement works each year, based on the four contractual areas, and it is only fair that the improvements are spread around to as many tenants as possible over the four-and-a-half year programme.

Simon Davies
(WHQS Project Manager, Vale Council)

HIGH TIDE TIMES
(UNTIL OCTOBER 25)
The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
18 Thur	08.53	10.4	21.16	10.3
19 Fri	09.38	10.2	22.01	9.7
20 Sat	10.23	9.5	22.51	9.2
21 Sun	11.11	9.1	23.41	8.6
22 Mon			12.19	8.5
23 Tues	00.59	8.1	13.38	8.0
24 Wed	02.25	7.9	15.02	8.2
25 Thur	03.43	8.1	16.11	8.5

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

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'BRA WAVE' WAS WELL SUPPORTED!

FLASHBACK! The Cowbridge branch of Tenovus launch their first 'bra wave'. **(PHOTOGRAPH by MIKE WILCOCK).**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Sharonmarie continued: "She is being sponsored to do this by all her friends and work colleagues at Regatta Manchester.

"We are hoping that all the local shops will support us by displaying a bra in their windows, and maybe even take part.

"We are proud to say that this was started in Cowbridge by myself and my assistant manager, Linda Thomas. We have been well supported – not just by our bras – but by all our volunteers and the local people of Cowbridge!"

KATY FLIES HIGH IN THE SOROPTIMIST COMPETITION

Pictured with Katy Freeland, from 1st Cowbridge Guides, is regional president of Soroptimist International Wales South, Rhian Williams.

KATY FREELAND (14) from 1st Cowbridge Guides, has won first prize in the All Wales Girls Speaking competition, organised by Soroptimist International Wales south region, in partnership with Girl Guiding Cymru.

The final was held at the Heronstone Hotel, Bridgend, and Katy received a cheque for £100 with her chosen topic 'How High can a Girl Fly?'.

The three young finalists had all won their individual heats held over the summer. They had six minutes to speak on their chosen topic and were then given time to prepare a two-minute impromptu speech, entitled 'Going for Gold'.

They were marked on content, construction, style, presentation and delivery.

The judges for this competition were Helen Murdoch, president of Guiding Cymru; Ann Jenkins, High Sheriff of Mid Glamorgan; and Tricia Ford, representing Soroptimist International Wales South.

Tears of laughter at U3A

OCTOBER 10 saw the second meeting of the Cowbridge U3A at their new venue, the main hall in the Town Hall.

The extra space available for growing numbers is proving to be justified as more than 100 'third-agers' enjoyed listening to Val Weaver and Claire Davies tell of the trials, tribulations and delights of their last two adventures.

Entitled 'Icy Plains and Dizzy Heights', they had the audience mesmerised with accounts of the discomforts of shovelling snow in the frozen Arctic, the exhilaration of handling dog sleds.

How awesome was the scenery on their walk in the Himalayas, having to take a deep breath before stepping out onto rickety bridges suspended above deep gorges.

These two ladies had us weeping with laughter at how they dealt with everyday "natural" calls, and earned our admiration for undergoing extreme adventures to raise money for the Macmillan Cancer Support charit – so far over £100,000. More power to their elbow, they are well worth an invitation to speak.

The next meeting of the Cowbridge U3A will be on November 12 at the Town Hall at 2pm, when the speaker will be David Maddox on the Tonypandy Riots, The Greater Picture.

New members and visitors are always welcome. See website at www.u3asites.org.uk/cowbridge **TD**

Old Hall Bridge

RECENT results for Old Hall Bridge Club are as follows:

September 5: WBU simultaneous pairs in aid of Air Ambulance: first – Amy Owen and Debbie Rosevear; second – Colin Easterbrook and Glenda Roberts.

September 12: first Helen Barrie and Penny Jarvis; second – Dennis Smith and Katherine Jenkins.

September 19: first – John Raymond and David Stevenson; second – Glenda Roberts and Colin Easterbrook.

September 26: first – Helen Barrie and Carol Baron; second – Vida Halford and Margaret Bancroft. **SB**

Bridge results

VALE of Glamorgan Bridge Club results - Monday October 8 (club night, 21 pairs):

1st. Liam Sheridan & John Beard 62.12%, 2nd. Mary Moore & Toney Disley 59.72%, 3rd. Debbie & Simon Richards 58.10%, 4th. Marjorie Morris & Wendy Williams 57.32%, 5th. Terry Reilly & John Evans 56.31%, 6th. John Henson & Geoff Tinkler 55.30%.

Please note, the Children in Need events take place on Monday, November 12 at Vale Club, Tuesday, November 13 at Llandleddian Club and Thursday November 15 at Penlline Club. ***BS***

BUSY FESTIVE PERIOD AHEAD FOR GROUP

PENNLYN and district WI members enjoyed the annual treasure hunt last month in Pontyclun, the winning team were – Novello Peters, Marjorie Nash and Jane Exell.

Thanks to Rhiannon Cory for setting the clues. We finished the evening with a meal in Fullbrook's Bistro, Pontyclun.

Our craft evening was held on September 19, and activities focused on preparations for our Christmas fayre, which will be held on Saturday December 1 in Penllyn Village Hall; ideas were exchanged and plans made, and a lovely selection of Christmas gift tags were made.

On September 20, we entered a team in the federation quiz. Unfortunately, they were not among the winners, but reported that it had been an enjoyable evening.

Our monthly members' meeting was held on October 2. Midori Pritchard gave a very interesting and enlightening talk on the Japanese dress and customs. She even dressed one of our members in Japanese costume.

She informed us about the conventions regarding the custom of bowing, and the variations in Japanese dress for different occasions. At the end, Midori presented each member with a beautiful origami bird. The speaker was thanked by vice-president, Rhiannon Cory.

Winners of the raffle and the competition were announced, and members were able to peruse the bookstall.

Then followed the business section of the meeting, and information was given regarding various forthcoming local and federation events, and reminders given regarding the federation pantomime in November (in which some of our members are taking part), and the federation dinner, with Mike Doyle, on October 23. We are making plans for our festive meal in January, and also hope to have a 'craft workshop Saturday' in that month.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 6 at 7.30pm in the village hall, and will take the form of a quiz night and buffet (there may also be a speaker).

New members are always warmly welcomed; we meet on the first Tuesday in every month (except August) at 7.30pm in Penllyn Village Hall.

For further information contact Novello 01656 674191 or Marjorie 01656 647115. **MN**

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ORGAN FESTIVAL IS A BIG HIT

ABOVE and BELOW: Dr Stewart chats to audience members.

ABOVE: Festival director James Bull with family members and Dr Gordon Stewart.

ALL PHOTOGRAPHS by IAN DIXON.

PETERSTON-super-Ely organ festival proved highly successful with outstanding virtuoso performances from six musicians, culminating in a stunning programme from organist Dr Gordon Stewart.

The Saturday night audience were held enthralled by Dr Stewart's performance, and also enjoyed his company at the canape and champagne supper that followed.

Dr Stewart played at the choral service on Sunday morning which completed a well-attended and entertaining festival.

Big Screen

BIG Screen's next film is *Salmon Fishing in the Yemen* (Cert 12A) on Thursday, October 25, at 7.30pm in Cowbridge Town Hall.

This curiously titled film is about a fisheries expert (Ewan McGregor) who is asked to help realise a sheik's vision of bringing the sport of fly-fishing to the desert. What appears to be an impossible task is accompanied by a romantic affair between the consultant and sheik's secretary (Emily Blunt).

Tickets £4 (available in advance from the Town Clerk's office, or on the door).

Cowbridge Bridge clubs' annual pairs competition

LAST weekend, 32 bridge players from Cowbridge and district Bridge clubs travelled to the Tewkesbury Park Hotel, Golf and Country Club for the annual pairs' competition.

The days were spent exploring the town, surrounding villages and countryside, and many participants enjoyed longer organised walks.

The main pairs' competition was held on October 12, and the results were:

First, Judith and Colin Nunn; second, Beth and Phil Forbes; third, Marian East and Penny Jarvis.

Saturday Party Bridge results:

First, Alban Wilde; second, Penny Jarvis; third, Sally Casey.

*Dennis Smith, the founder of this competition, recounted the origins of this event, which began in 1995, and he presented the Cup to this year's winners, Judith and Colin Nunn (**above**).*

Cowbridge bridge

COWBRIDGE and District Bridge Club (Llanbleddian) results:

Tuesday, October 2 - 1 Mary Wallis and Myrtle Hansard, 62.04 per cent; 2 Judith Nunn and Amy Owen, 60.19; 3 Mearl Owen and Debbie Rosevear, 57.87; 4 Helen Ruttley and Mike Ruttley, 56.94; 5 Pat Swain and Brian Swain, 56.25.

Tuesday, October 9 - 1 Amy Owen and Brian Swain, 63.93 er cent; 2 Mearl Owen and Debbie Rosevear, 61.43; 3 Sylvia Phillips and Pam Higgs, 58.21; 4 Luba Ashworth and Joan Bird, 56.79; 5 Helen and Mike Ruttley, 53.93.

Please note that Tuesday, November 13, will be Children in Need night.

ME

New chairman elected for Vale of Glamorgan Show!

FOLLOWING a recent meeting of the Vale of Glamorgan Agricultural Society, Coun Raymond Thomas, Vale county councillor for Llandow and Ewenny, was elected chairman.

Ray has been involved with the show ever since he was 12 years old and, as a representative of Wick Young Farmer's Club, joined the show committee. Ray's parents – the late Russell and Joan Thomas – were great supporters of the Vale Show, Russell being a chief sheep steward for many years before Ray took over the mantle.

Following Ray's education at Cowbridge Comprehensive School and studies in general agriculture in Usk College, he went on to farm the family farm, Sutton Newydd in Wick.

He joined Wick YFC where he met Lorraine, who at the time was in Pennard YFC. They have been married for 34 years and have three grown up children – Jason, Sarah and Michael. Just over three years ago, Ray became a county councillor and was returned in the council elections last May.

***LEFT:** Coun Raymond Thomas, wife Lorraine and grown up children Jason, Sarah and Michael.*

Ray said that he was privileged to be a vice president of the society in 2005.

He said it is now an honour to be chairman, after serving as vice chairman to Mr Rob Llewellyn for the past two years.

Rob has been an excellent chairman and the committee were unanimous in their thanks to him for doing a wonderful job.

He oversaw two successful shows during his reign in office – as Ray says, he will be a hard act to follow.

During the meeting, life members were elected. Life membership is only awarded to those who work tirelessly for the society over many years.

Mr John Morgan of Ty Parc, St Athan, worked for many years on the committee. He put all the show signs in place as well as acting as a chief cattle steward.

He was nominated along with Terry and Maureen Griffin, who have run the horticultural show for more than 40 years!

Mrs Ann Arnott was also nominated; Ann runs the craft fair for the society and is a past general secretary.

Mr Jonathan Davies of Lessor Hill, Peterston-super-Ely was also elected. Jonathan has become an integral part of the show team.

He has been involved in building the show field since he was a young boy – he must have walked hundreds of miles with the line marker and would be known to all those who trade at the show.

The committee are most grateful to them all for their help, enthusiasm and support.

The 2013 Vale of Glamorgan Show will be held on Wednesday, August 21. For more information, or for results or photographs from this year's show, visit: www.valeofglamorganshow.co.uk

NICOLA GIBSON
General secretary

BONVILSTON CHURCH CHEQUE FOR HOMELESS

Kudlip Gill receives the cheque from Vivienne Hayes and Paul Fisher.

FOLLOWING the recent Harvest Thanksgiving members of St Mary's, Bonvilston, visited the Huggard Centre in Cardiff on October 4 to hand over a cheque for £300.

Taken on a tour around the new building by Karen Holbrook, administrator and fundraising, Vivienne and Paul were "very impressed" by the modern facilities and the work that Huggard does for the homeless in Cardiff.

After the tour, the cheque was presented to Kudlip Gill, finance officer, who is pictured with Vivienne Hayes, church warden and Paul Fisher, lay chair.

St Mary's plan to get involved with Huggard with a sponsored 'Sleep Out' on Friday, December 7, and also with an appeal for toiletries and clothing.

ACRYLIC DEMO

ON Thursday, October 25, Cowbridge Art Society will welcome artist Michelle Scragg, who will give a demonstration on creating an abstract painting in acrylic.

The society meets on Thursday evenings at the Old Hall, Cowbridge (7pm-9pm). Visitors are welcome. *For full programme, see www.cowbridgeartsociety.com*

SCOUT SALE

SECOND hand book sale and bric-a-brac.

Adult fiction 30p, children's books 10p, jigsaws, LPs and Bric-a-brac; on Saturday, ***October 27****, at 10.30am-3pm, Cowbridge Scout Hall (behind the Sheep Market).*

NEW CLASSROOM IS OPENED AT PETERSTON-SUPER-ELY SCHOOL

Pictures by
IAN DIXON

THE Archbishop of Wales attended the opening of a new classroom at the Peterston Super Ely C/W Junior School on Friday, October 4.

The classroom was named after a former head governor, the late Mr Forrest, and the ribbon was cut by his daughter, aided by his wife and the headteacher.

Following a tea break, the Archbishop held a highly entertaining and revealing question and answer session with senior pupils.

The 'Year of Faith' in Cowbridge

ABOVE:
Archbishop Barry Morgan and Mrs Pamela Roberts (parish warden).

Pictures by
MIKE WILCOCK

ABOVE: (Front row, left to right) – Fr Norman Williams, Bishop Robert Paterson, Canon Derek Belcher, Fr Martytn Perry. (Back row) – Mr David Thomas (Honorary Bishop's Chaplain), Mrs Paterson, Mr David Mason (Crucifer), Mr Howard Perks (Subdeacon and MC).

ABOVE: Dan Clayton Jones OBE, Vale MP Alun Cairns, Coun Andrea Burges, Archbsihop Barry Morgan, Coun Nicola Thomas, the Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian, and Canon Derek Belcher..

WE began our 'Year of Faith' with a lecture on RS Thomas, an eminent priest poet, given by the Archbishop of Wales Dr Barry Morgan.

At our All Parish service the following Sunday, Bishop Robert Paterson, former rector of this parish, was the principle concelebrant and preacher on the theme of 'Renewal in Faith and Service'.

More than 100 people attended the RS Thomas Lecture and more than 190 were at the special Sunday service.

These first events in our 'Year of Faith' have been very important. They have put us in touch with the life of the priest poet RS Thomas, and also challenged us to be messengers of God to all whom we make contact with.

RS Thomas was a very controversial figure but his poetry speaks of a life based in contemplation – reflection on God's presence.

The Archbishop of Canterbury Dr Rowan Williams recently emphasised the importance of personal reflection in our individual and corporate spiritual lives. The current 'Vicars academy' TV Programme also makes this essential point.

We are holding an 'Alpha Excite Day' on November 10 in Holy Cross Church, from 9.30am to 4pm.

The aim of this day is for local churches to hold their own alpha renewal course and so engage in a fellowship of love with those who want to get in touch with the spiritual side of their lives.

More information will be made available in due course.

CANON DEREK BELCHER

Professor's after dinner talk

Photo by HEATHER MARCH

THE Lord Lieutenant of South Glamorgan recently hosted the annual Lieutenancy dinner at the Cardiff and County Club, when the speaker was Dr Prys Morgan, Emeritus Professor of History at Swansea University and a Deputy Lieutenant of West Glamorgan.

His talk was full of informative historical facts, laced with amusing comments and anecdotes – not least some concerning his eminent younger brother, Rhodri! ***HM***

COMMUNITY NEWS

TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, "Tynewydd", Llangan. (01656) 860303

Sale cancelled

THE car boot sale which was to take place at Llangan Primary School on October 21, has been cancelled, due to the unsettled weather.

Instead, a table top sale will take place in the school playground, weather permitting, or in the school hall tomorrow on Friday, October 19 at 3.30pm.

Cost of a table £5; refreshments available; free entrance for buyers.

For more information, call the school on 01446 772403.

Concert success

THIS year's harvest festival concert at Llangan school was, once again, a resounding success

The children, from the tiny tots in the nursery class, to the older boys and girls, all played their part.

It was also gratifying to find the hall full to capacity with parents and grandparents.

We must not forget the teaching staff, now under the new headmaster, Mr Steve Williams.

During my frequent visits, there is always a happy air about the school.

My personal thanks to all the teaching staff for making my frequent visits to the school so pleasurable.

Reminder

ON Sunday, October 28, there will be a special service at St Canna's Church, Llangan at 11.15am, for the christening of Harri, son of local couple Dan and Sarah.

It will also be the last service in St Canna's at which Canon Val Hamer will officiate before her retirement.

Village link

ON October 24, there will be a talk on 'Winter interest in the garden' in the St Canna's vestry at 7pm.

Fun time!

GO along to the Treoes community hall on October 27 and take part in a family fun evening, which will include a fancy dress competition for children and adults!

For more information, call Bronwyn on 07857 505320.

Diamond couple

Congratulations to Young at Heart members, Norma and Bob Newman on celebrating their diamond wedding anniversary.

Unfortunately, Norma has not been very well over recent weeks, having to spend some time in the Princess of Wales hospital.

I am sure more celebrations will take place when Norma is well enough to rejoin her friends at the club.

Trees hazard

A CONCERNED Treoes resident has been in touch with me to bring to the notice of local councillors the problems of trees bordering the Treoes playing field.

While walking his dog, he narrowly missed being hit by a vehicle when trying to avoid being entangled in the offending branches.

This is a matter of deep concern for users of this very busy road.

Poor show

THE Saron Chapel service held on Sunday, October 14 was once again poorly attended, with only 14 locals taking time to support the Rev Phillip Denier who was again in fine voice. The organist was Mrs Mary Lloyd.

Autumn fayre

WICK and District Pensioners Club holds its autumn fayre at Wick Village Hall on Saturday, October 27, 2pm-4pm.

Various exciting stalls including cakes, books, tombola, Christmas items, produce etc. Also grand raffle with plenty of prizes. Raffle will be drawn at 3.30pm.

Admission 50p to include refreshments.

THE WAITROSE OPENING IS NOW ONE STEP CLOSER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Mr Anderson said: "There were many days when we spent the first two hours simply pumping water away."

There had, he said, been no other complications, as the company was very experienced in this area.

He said: "I have been involved in 31 other supermarket developments, including two other Waitrose ones.

"I suppose the project that was most similar was one for Sainsbury's in Bath, where again it was essential for it to be in keeping with the town."

The final count in terms of parking spaces is 138. Mr Roger Bird reflected on the history of the site. He said: "At the turn of the century, it was a water meadow.

"My father was the borough surveyor and the 'director of nuisances' – and in that capacity he had to dispose of waste ash and bottles.

"They were deposited on this site for years, and eventually it was reclaimed. The first building was a garage for a bus company.

"My father opened a motor mower business in 1924, and it was not until 1946 that the company expanded by taking on the Ferguson Tractor agency."

He continued: "In 1952, we decided to concentrate on the motor mowers, and sold the tractor agency, although they were still being sold from the site until about 1962."

Jeff Bird recalled:"It was in 1969 that the garden centre was opened – an easy date for me to remember because Wales won the Triple Crown and Glamorgan won the County Cricket Championship!"

The town had changed considerably over the years, particularly in terms of what it offered shoppers:

"I can remember my grandmother used to take the bus to Bridgend – to buy things she couldn't get in Cowbridge!"

Since then, there had been a steady expansion, and Waitrose would be the next step, by attracting more people into the town.

Roger Bird added: "I am really looking to Waitrose opening, it is another step forward for Cowbridge."

LAMBS group visit the Llandaf studios, to see the Beeb at work!

EARLY in the evening of Monday, October 9, a slow-moving convoy of cars snaked its way past the main entrance of the BBC Studios in Llandaff – in the style of a presidential cavalcade.

But when the cars, conveying members of the Llansannor Ancient and Modern Buildings and Settlements (LAMBS) local history group, finally located the visitors' car park, their studio tour could at last begin...

Two experienced BBC guides, Owen and Prys, provided the LAMBS group with an informative and highly entertaining tour of the studios.

Particular items visited included a street set, formerly used in *Pobol y Cwm* productions (now moved to Cardiff Bay), a large studio used for filming *Crimewatch* and *Scrum V*; and the small studio used daily for BBC Wales news broadcasts, complete with wall panels that serve as a backdrop for Derek Brockway's weather forecasts.

By a marvel of modern technology, members were able to have their photographs taken in front of a weather map, alongside a digitally-generated image of Derek!

The group also visited a live broadcast studio to meet the continuity officer on duty, whose job is to ensure that all broadcast channels are functioning smoothly and to intervene immediately if they are not.

Overall, the visit provided a real insight into the business of programme production and broadcasting practices.

Afterwards, the group retired to the Maltsters pub in Llandaff for dinner.

On behalf of the group, Trish and Jim Duffield were thanked for organising what had proved to be a very enjoyable evening.

MB

'Life-changing' stories from church group

A LOCAL church group is organising a series of talks in Cowbridge, featuring "amazing life-changing stories".

The first takes place this Sunday (October 21) in the banquet hall of the Duke of Wellington in Cowbridge, from 5pm to 6.15pm.

The evenings are being organised by the Vale Church and will take place every third Sunday in the month.

A spokesman said: "This coming Sunday, the bar will be open and coffee available, as Mark Peers shares his amazing story of transformation.

"Mark was a well-known and popular pub owner for many years in his community in south Wales.

"He will tell his story of a sequence of events that left him in a coma after being in an accident that nearly took his life.

"His life took a worsening path, which led to imprisonment, where an experience was to change his life forever."

Choir sings for charity *and ex-pats!*

COWBRIDGE Male Voice Choir travelled to Northampton on Saturday, October 13, to perform a concert for the Hopecentre charity at St Giles Church.

The venue was well attended, and there was a fair number of ex-pat Welsh in the audience.

The Hopecentre charity has been helping the homeless and disadvantaged community in Northampton since 1974. It provides access to hot meals, showers and recycled clothing.

It has recently started to focus on training and development activities designed to help and encourage those in need to move on with their lives, improve their self esteem and develop new skills.

The choir is proud to be involved with such a worthwhile organisation and also proud that while performing concerts for charitable causes within the UK and abroad, it represents the people of Wales and particularly the residents of the Vale and RCT.

ROP

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CUTTINGS BRING BACK MEMORIES...

WHEN I find time, I like nothing better than to look back at the many scrap books I have which contain my press cuttings.

The only regret I have is that I never started keeping a press cuttings book when I first started reporting on the Welsh horse racing scene back in 1966.

One of my press cuttings, dated April 18, 1977, reveals that Llancarfan's Mary Williams (she's now Mrs Bill Evans and lives in Pembrokeshire) landed a double at the Glamorgan Hunt Steeplechases at St Hilary on Rory M and Underhill. Mary, who is now a permit holder, won the members' race on Rory M, and the ladies' open race on Underhill.

In my report I wrote:

"Despite the absence of Linden Lad, the ladies' race still proved a real thriller, with the towering Underhill and tiny Mandryka matching strides throughout the last mile. Underhill, confidently ridden by Mary Williams, drew ahead at the second last to win by three lengths!"

What it must be remembered is that Mandryka, who was ridden by Shan Morgan, is the most prolific point-to-pointer in Welsh hunt-racing history. In all, this little horse, who was dubbed The Welsh Wonder, won 38 ladies open races-all with Shan Morgan in the saddle – five men's open races and a hunter chase at Chepstow Racecourse.

The man who rode him in that hunter chase was Cowbridge farmer John Llewellyn who, on that day back in 1977, won the maiden race on Abbott's Delight.

The year 1977 was also the year a 17-year-old welding apprentice named Paul Hamer from Coychurch chalked up his first winner at the Llangeinor Hunt Steeplechases.

Paul, who was to go on to become a Welsh champion rider, took the members' race on Dillwyn Thomas' Cefn Soloman.

John Llewellyn won the men's open at this meeting on the late Rose Harry's chestnut Fitz who, if my memory serves me right, won 25 races and the last of them at the grand old age of 17!

Meanwhile, Hidden Identity, a six year-old bay mare trained at Aberthin by Tim Vaughan, was a 9-1 winner at Bangor-on-Dee last week.

Well ridden by Richard Johnson the ex-Irish mare stayed on strongly in the closing stages to win by three and three-quarter lengths from the 2-1 favourite She Ranks Me.

BRIAN LEE

E-mail Brian Lee at brianlee4@virginmedia.com or phone him on 02920736438

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Best Kept Village winners in civic reception

ABOVE; Children from some of the winning schools, including Llanfair Primary, St Andrews Major, Cadoxton and Cogan nurseries and Ashgrove Special School.

The Mayor of the Vale has hosted a reception to congratulate winners of the Best Kept Village Competition 2012 and the schools' competition.

Coun Eric Hacker said: "I would like to thank all the villages and schools who entered this year's competition and for making the effort to improve the area in which we live. Our gardens brighten up our lives and give us a sense of pride in our achievements.

"I am particularly pleased that so many schools took part and that we are encouraging our young people to have an interest in our environment."

The winning village this year was Ystradowen, with Gileston and Michaelston le Pit as joint second and Wenvoe as fourth.

The 2012 schools' competition was well supported, with 18 schools taking part.

The winning schools in Category A were: Ashgrove School, Penarth – first; St Andrews Major and St Nicholas – joint second.

In Category B, Cadoxton Nursery and Cogan Nursery were joint first, with Bute Cottage Nursery placed third and Llanfair primary School "very highly commended".

The Wenvoe committee accept their fourth place prize.

Michaelston le Pit represeatatives receive their joint second award.

Ystradowen was this year's Best Kept Village in the Vale.

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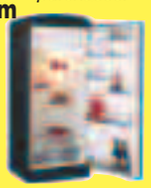

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Reader's view

Storm in a jam jar

RECENTLY, the Daily Mail drew attention to an EU regulation prohibiting the sale of home made jam by churches, village halls or other charitable bodies at local fetes, sales and similar events.

The penalty for breaking the regulation is a fine of up to £5,000. While it is possible to buy unused jars and lids, they cost about £1 each, which might make the jam unsaleable and seriously affect the income of those charities which sell it.

The article quoted the Secretary of State for the Environment as saying that commonsense is called for but, apparently, the government has done nothing to prevent the regulation taking effect in the UK.

There is a Downing Street petition on the matter and I would urge all your readers to visit the website and sign it and to bring the matter to the attention of their friends, so that the word gets spread.

If enough people sign the petition, the matter has to be debated in Parliament, which may make the Government take action to protect its citizens.

This may be a matter of particular interest to members of the WI, as it would appear from the article that their national body is willing to accept the regulation.

Gavin Davies, Penmark

New look for council recycling vehicles

TWELVE of the Vale Council's recycling vehicles have received new bilingual signage – after a grant from Waste Awareness Wales.

Six of the fleet now carry garden waste recycling messages.

The remaining six carry information about the Vale's household waste recycling centres in Barry and Llandow.

Coun Rob Curtis, cabinet member for the environment and visible services, was shown two of the vehicles by the council's cleansing superintendant, Simon Chilcott, before the vehicles started their collection rounds.

Coun Curtis said: "These vehicles, which are driven across the Vale, promote two very important elements of our recycling service.

"Firstly, our alternate week garden waste collections.

"This year we're continuing collections through November, with 'ring and request' starting from December 3.

"Secondly, we are promoting the fact that our residents can recycle more items at our household waste recycling centres.

"The clear pictures on the side of the vehicles will hopefully serve to remind people that car oil, electrical items (from irons to TVs) and hard plastics can be taken to the centres for onward processing by our contractors, Biffa."

COUNCIL SURGERY

COUNS Geoff Cox, Hunter Jarvie and Andrew Parker, Cowbridge ward members on the Vale Council, will be holding a surgery on Saturday, October 20, from 11am-12.30pm in the Robing Room of Cowbridge Town Hall. Appointments are not necessary.

COUNCIL TO RUN TEAM

Traffic wardens should be on streets by April

by PHILIP IRWIN

PLANS to have council traffic wardens patrolling the Vale by April next year are still on schedule.

For some time now, the Vale Council has been going through a complex legal process to obtain powers from the Welsh Government (WG) to take on civil parking enforcement (CPE) in the Vale.

At last Monday's Vale Council cabinet meeting in Llantwit Major, the current situation was outlined in an officers' report. The report said that the new traffic wardens will be run in a joint operation with Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC), which will be the employing authority, running a team comprising a parking manager and 17 other staff. The parking manager is expected to be appointed in the near future.

The number of staff and their employment will be reviewed once the operation has had time to bed in. The wardens will be known as civil enforcement officers (CEOs).

The parking management team will be based in the Innovation Centre, Bridgend Science Park, and various locations for a satellite office in the Vale are being considered.

As part of the legal process, new on and off street traffic regulation orders (TROs) are being prepared to make the scheme legally watertight, after a review by a specialist company, Alpha Parking.

When the process started, the cabinet approved up to £300,000 from the Visible Services reserves to progress the CPE application. Costs so far are approximately £136,380 and are made up of: Technical salaries – £40,000 (current estimate); Buchannan Software – £20,380 (current estimate); Alpha Parking – £57,000 (current estimate); RTA consultants – £19,000 (current estimate).

The report concluded: "A budget is currently being discussed with BCBC for the first year of operation of CPE in 2013/14.

"It is currently anticipated that the on-going operational costs of the service will be funded from parking fine income."

Renishaw makes start at former Bosch factory

A Gloucestershire company has begun operations at the former Bosch site in Miskin, bringing 20 jobs to the area.

Renishaw is a global player in engineering technology and received a Queen's Award for Enterprise in 2012 for a new cutting-edge accuracy measuring system.

South Wales Central AM, Andrew RT Davies, said it was a promising sign that the site was being "put to good use" once more.

Mr Davies said his hope was that more manufacturing jobs would be created in the future.

"In the short term at least, the opening of this plant will replace just 20 of the 900 jobs lost when Bosch diverted its work to Hungary.

"Nevertheless, this is good news for the Vale. It is promising that the site will at last be put to good use, and that the company is believed to be keen to locate much of its future manufacturing here in the Vale."

Bosch ceased manufacturing in Miskin last summer, with work being transferred to a plant in Hungary.

Inaugural deaf PACT meeting set for the Vale

THE Vale's deaf community will have the chance to air their policing concerns with the creation of a new PACT meeting.

The Safer Vale Partnership is hosting its first PACT meeting designed for people with a hearing disability at 7pm on Wednesday, October 24, in committee room two of the Vale Council's Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry.

Interest has been shown by members to set up a deaf PACT meeting and the Safer Vale Partnership has been asked to facilitate this.

Deaf PACT meetings are already held in other areas throughout south Wales. They have been well attended and have successfully addressed community issues.

The Safer Vale Partnership is committed to creating a safer environment in which people can live, work and visit, free from crime and disorder and the fear of crime.

The partnership is made up of representatives from the statutory sector, voluntary sector, local businesses and community groups.

Safer Vale would like to encourage residents to attend this meeting to have their say on matters that affect their community. Confirm attendance by texting or emailing your details to PCSO Rhiannon Harris on 07970 736885, or: rhiannon.harris@south-wales.pnn.police.uk, including your name, address and contact number.

Good neighbour scheme seeking voluntary drivers

AGE CONCERN'S Good Neighbour scheme in the western Vale is currently seeking to recruit volunteer drivers who are willing to help older people to live in their homes by assisting with hospital appointments, dental appointments and everyday necessities such as shopping.

Many of these tasks, which we take for granted, cause older people much worry and distress in trying to arrange, as many no longer have readily accesible transport.

Could you make a real difference to people's lives by helping them live theirs?

It is a very fulfiling role, and no more than a couple of hours a week is needed. Mileage costs are reimbursed to volunteers.

If you want to help your local community, and the older people within it, contact the Gary Bohun on 01446 795549.

GB

Celebrity chef shows how it's done at Vale Council cooking demonstration

SHOPPERS in Barry picked up some top tips and recipe ideas at a 'Love Food, Hate Waste' cookery demonstration hosted by celebrity chef Richard Fox and the Vale Council.

Richard performed several live cookery demonstrations, showing how leftovers can be made into meals, as well as sharing practical advice on how to plan meals, work out portion sizes, understand date labels and store food correctly to make it last longer.

The event was hosted by the council as part of Waste Awareness Wales' 'Love Food, Hate Waste' tour, encouraging us all to reduce the amount of food we throw away.

Cook-offs, including one between The GEM's own Gareth Jamieson and Coun Gwyn John, tested culinary skills and showcased tasty recipes.

Georgina Taubman from Waste Awareness Wales said: "In Wales, we throw away a staggering amount of food.

"The two main reasons we end up wasting food is that we cook or prepare too much, or we let it go past its use-by date. Small and simple changes in the kitchen can make a massive difference, such as knowing more about portion sizes.

"Knowing a bit more about how we shop for, store and prepare food all helps us to waste less food at home.

"I'm really pleased with the comments we heard at the Barry event, when residents told us they were going to try the recipe ideas and found the tips useful."

Celebrity chef Richard Fox shows Coun Rob Curtis how it's done in the kitchen.

Official report praises 'problem free' Eisteddfod in the Vale...

THE Vale Council has published an official report on its involvement with the National Eisteddfod 2012 in August at Llandow.

The Vale Council's official report, prepared by Rob Thomas, the director of development services, revealed that 138,767 visitors came, nearly 2,000 higher than the previous Eisteddfod in south Wales, which was in Ebbw Vale in 2010.

Last year's Eisteddfod in Wrexham, was 10,000 higher, but Elfed Roberts, the chief executive of the Eisteddfod, has (through the media) expressed his satisfaction at attendance figures, especially given the poor weather during the middle of the week, the economic climate and also the rival attraction of the Olympics.

The author of the report said: "*I am pleased to report that as a consequence of sound advanced planning and decision making, there were no reported problems with congestion on the roads during the Eisteddfod week.*

"In addition, officers were able to respond to any specific concerns (notably as a consequence of delays for traffic leaving car parks at the busiest times) in a timely and efficient manner."

He said that the bus service that was provided by the council to link the Eisteddfod site with Cowbridge and Llantwit Major operated without delays or problems.

There were 6,757 passenger journeys throughout the week, and he added that a significant majority used the bus to link with the train service for Llantwit Major.

On site, the council made the Greenlinks bus available to transport people requiring a bus around the Maes.

The service used a pre-arranged route and operated daily, taking between 10 and 25 each day.

He said that, in the run-up to the Eisteddfod, a considerable amount of time and staff resources were used to plan the council's presence on the Maes, where it had a prominent pavilion, with the theme 'Coast and Countryside'.

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YOUNG FARMERS CYCLE TO AGM FOR AIR AMBULANCE!

ABOVE: the YFC cyclists line up for a photo shoot. BELOW: Welsh star Matthew Rees was on hand to add his support

MEMBERS of Glamorgan Young Farmers recently set off with Wales YFC chairman Mr Dylan Jones and close friend Aled Jones, to cycle from the county office in Pencoed to the Millennium Stadium, Cardiff for their AGM.

Dylan Jones is chairman of Wales YFC and has cycled through every county in Wales on the sponsored cycle ride in aid of his chosen charity Wales Air Ambulance.

PIT STOP

The cyclists took a 'pit stop' at The Red Lion, Pendoylan, where Matthew Rees was on hand to congratulate them on their efforts.

They have cycled 568 miles and the Young Farmers have raised a massive £37,000 for a worthy cause.

Commissioner shows support for Age Concern

THE Older People's Commissioner for Wales, Sarah Rochira, has expressed her support and admiration for the work of Age Concern Cardiff and the Vale in the local area.

When questioned in an interview for the Age Concern magazine, Life Times, the Commissioner commented: "I'd like to say a very public thank you to all the staff and volunteers who make Age Concern Cardiff and the Vale what it is.

"I know just how important your work is. Quite simply, you give meaning back to thousands of older people every year.

"Without you, there are people who would be lonely, isolated and afraid, who would have to choose whether to eat or heat, and for many whose life simply wouldn't be worth living. Thank you to all of you for what you do, you are just wonderful!"

To find out more about the products and services that Age Concern Cardiff and the Vale offer in the local area, call: 02920 521 052 or visit: www.age-concern-cardiff.org.uk.

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GOODYEAR DUNLOP

'Youth cabinet will give young people a voice'

– SAYS VALE COUNCILLOR

THE cabinet member for children's services at the Vale Council, Coun Chris Elmore, has told The GEM that a formal consultation is being launched – with a view to establishing a 'youth cabinet' and 'youth mayor'.

Local Democracy Week (LDW) focuses on trying to engage more young people in the democratic process, and is the inspiration for the start of conversations with local young people from across the county on options for holding elections next year to elect a youth cabinet,

The aim is to provide a voice for young people in the Vale.

Since LDW was launched in 2006 the focus has been on young people questioning councillors and the election of a councillor as 'Youth Champion'.

But Coun Elmore said this is all set to change under proposals from the Labour–Llantwit First run Vale Council.

Coun Elmore told The GEM: "My main aim in the establishment of a youth cabinet and a youth mayor is to ensure that, for the first time, young people have a real say on how services which directly affect them are developed and delivered.

"The role of youth mayor would be a clear link between the Vale Council cabinet and the youth cabinet, ensuring they have a say on the decisions the Vale cabinet are making on services that matter to them.

"I would encourage all young people to complete the survey."

LDW involves all Vale secondary schools and many other youth organisations right across the Vale. A report will be presented to the Vale Council cabinet before Christmas following the consultation with young people, and it is hoped that elections for a youth cabinet and youth mayor will happen in the spring of 2013.

The survey for young people can be found at: www.surveymonkey.com/s/ValeLDW2012.

School 'keep giving' with festival

PUPILS and staff at Gladstone Primary School celebrated harvest with a special festival, led by teacher Sarah Creasey, at school last week.

Each year group practised a song, poem, recipe or rap and performed for the rest of the school, before prayers were said.

This year, the children and parents had been asked to donate tinned or dried food for the festival.

At the end of the service, the year-6 children and Mrs Creasey carried 26 bags brimming with produce to the school car park where the food was whisked away to Coastlands Family Church for their food bank – a scheme that helps to feed thousands of people across the Vale who find themselves in a crisis situation.

Mrs Creasey said: "Once again, the pupils and parents of Gladstone have proved that we are a school with a big heart.

"We have taught the children the Christian message of a harvest festival by giving praise and sharing what we have. I feel so proud to be part of a school that just keeps giving." **HA**

ABOLVE:Sarah Creasey together with children from year-5 and year-6 and a selection of the food donated by Gladstone parents.

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Vale Calendar Girls looking to raise money for cancer charity

A LOCAL woman is following the lead of Julie Walters, Helen Mirren and the rest of the *Calendar Girls* – and creating her own version to raise money for Cancer Research UK.

Kelly Batchelor, from St Athan, is calling all local businesses to ask for help and support with funding for the calender. As well as help with publishing costs, Kelly and her band of volunteers also need help setting up and hosting a web page from which calendars can be sold.

Kelly told The GEM: "We are a group of people who really want to show our support to the families that have been destroyed due to this horrible illness.

"Cancer treatment is very expensive on the NHS and every day they are trying to find new ways of treating it. The aftercare and other forms of help are also very expensive.

"All funding will help towards the cost of publishing the calenders and setting up a website where items can be bought.

"We have found a local photographer to do the photo shoot at no cost, as her father also had cancer a few years ago.

"The businesses that are willing to help will have their names published at the back of the calendar, to show people they supported us."

Kelly had initially wanted to show her support through physical exertion, but circumstances dictated she choose another path.

She continued: "I was hoping to do the run for life to show my support but being five months pregnant, it really wasn't a good idea.

"I was talking to my local photographer while picking up family shots and the idea came to me – why not do a calender?

"That evening I suggested it on my Facebook page and I was shocked by the response. Friends of friends are willing to help, as cancer has affected their lives as it has my family."

Kelly has set up a donation page on Facebook for people to come forward and pledge their support, and she plans to support research into all cancer types with the calendar.

To support Kelly's cause, either as an individual or business, contact her through the Facebook page at: http://apps.facebook.com/jgdonation/kelly-batchelor21010/on-facebook.

Leigh Gruffydd Sanders

Sully WI help African mothers

SEPTEMBER has been a very busy month at Sully WI, where members have been actively supporting Angela Gorman and her charity, 'Life for African Mothers'.

Angela was a senior sister in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the University Hospital of Wales until she watched a BBC documentary that inspired her to take action in the fight to stop women in Africa dying in childbirth.

Since 2006, Angela has put her life and soul into supplying life-saving medication to women in African countries including Sierra Leone, Chad, Uganda, Tanzania and Somaliland.

It is estimated that since 2009, the charity has supplied 180,000 doses of drugs, thus saving an estimated 45,000 lives. It costs £5 to stop a woman having seizures which result in coma and death.

It costs only 45p to stop a woman bleeding to death; less than the price of a postage stamp!

Angela's charity encourages mothers to come to hospital to have their babies so that they can receive the medication. They are also given a gift of a baby bundle, including a babygro, cardigan, hat and blanket. The ladies of Sully WI have been feverishly knitting, and so far the first three boxes have been shipped to Lamley Hospital in Sierra Leone.

Sully WI hope to continue with monthly shipments, so if anyone would like to donate knitting wool, knitted baby clothes or good quality second-hand baby clothes, we would be delighted to receive them.

For more details call Jane on 07966 882459.

Jean Dowding

VOGA works are on show

WORK by members of VOGA (Vale of Glamorgan Artists) are on show at Y Galeri in Caerphilly.

The line up of artists comprises: Eileen Allan, Paul Baker, Sue Edwards, Eve Hart, Bernard Heslin, Laura Holliday, Kay Keogh, Bernard van Lierop, Kari Manley, Richard O'Connell, Shirley Anne Owen, Sue Paton, Sue Roberts, Ann Townson and Pauline Williams.

VOGA was formed by a group of artists working in Barry, but soon extended to others who live or work across the Vale.

Since its inception in 1997, VOGA has exhibited at home and internationally, including at this years' National Eisteddfod at Llandow.

Also featured is Alan Salisbury, a honorary member of the group who paints in the style of 17th century 'Old Masters' – "with a twist".

Barrie Llewellyn, senior lecturer in creative writing at the University of Glamorgan will be using the exhibition as the basis for a creative writing workshop.

The VOGA exhibition continues until Saturday, November 10. Y Galeri is open 10am till 5pm, Tuesday to Saturday.

AUTUMN FAIR

THERE will be an autumn fair in the Paget Rooms, Penarth, from 10.15am-12 noon, on Saturday, October 27, in aid of Cancer Research UK.

Admission is 50p to include tea/coffee and biscuits.

There will be the usual stalls and Christmas cards.

Barry couple's slog through the mud raises funds for the Forces' charity

Vintage bicycle ride was a better option than walking!

JONATHAN and Wendy Hicks thanked their dozens of sponsors after they completed a 13-mile march in aid of the Army Benevolent fund last Sunday.

Along with other re-enactors from the Screaming Eagles Living History Group, they walked around the area in Wiltshire, where elements of the American 101st Airborne Division were based in 1944.

"The conditions were very muddy in places and it took us most of the day but we kept going," said Wendy. "We were finally able to raise over £500 for this worthy cause."

57 Xfor fines in the Vale

LOCAL authority support company XFOR issued 57 fixed penalty notices in the Vale of Glamorgan during the week commencing October 8.

It has been tasked by the Vale Council to tackle dog fouling and littering offences and is taking a zero tolerance approach, with offenders being issued with £75 fines without warning.

PACT meetings

Upcoming Vale PACT meetings:

Illtyd PACT: Mount Sorrel Hotel, Porthkerry Road, Barry, on Wednesday, October 24, at 7pm.

Rhoose PACT: Celtic Way Community Centre, Celtic Way, Rhoose on Thursday, October 18, at 7pm.

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MYSTERY AS HERD IS TAKEN AWAY AT LAST MINUTE

Colwinston villagers round up latest 'fly grazing' horses

ABOVE: The abandoned horses on the tennis courts at Colwinston.

Photograph by Peter Graham-Woollard

by PHILIP IRWIN

VILLAGERS in Colwinston had to form a posse last Sunday and round up 17 horses that had been dumped on playing fields in the town.

Within a few days, the horses were taken away again – just before Vale Council welfare officers arrived to take the herd to another location!

A resident told The GEM: "To prevent them wandering, residents and farmers coralled them in the tennis courts."

The horses were initially fed and watered by volunteers. The resident added: "The small herd is of mixed stock, including four foals, one of which is still suckling and appear to be in good physical condition."

On Monday, the Vale Council confirmed that it was dealing with horses on land at the Colwinston Community Centre.

A council spokeswoman said: "There are 17 horses presently secure in the tennis court, and all attempts will be made to find the owners.

"Due to the unsuitability of the tennis courts for the storage of horses it has been decided to relocate the horses to a more suitable site.

"Animal health officers will be undertaking an investigation into the horse ownership/welfare

"Notices are being placed at Colwinston Community Centre, in line with Section 7 of the Animal Act 1971.

"If the owner of the horses do not come forward within 14 days of the notices being placed they will be classed as abandoned.

"After the 14 days the landowner (the Vale Council) will reserve the right to remove and/or sell the horses."

Earlier this year, horses that were abandoned on Vale Council land were impounded by the council after 14 days and rehomed at a rescue centre in England.

The chairman of Colwinston Community Council, Geoff Bates, said that the prompt action of villagers had helped both control a difficult situation, and protected the horses' welfare.

However, the situation changed on Tuesday when the horses were taken away.

A council spokesperson said: "Arrangements had been made to move the horses to a more suitable location.

"On arrival at Colwinston, the horse transport company received a call from a local horse owner stating he was missing horses and would be attending the site.

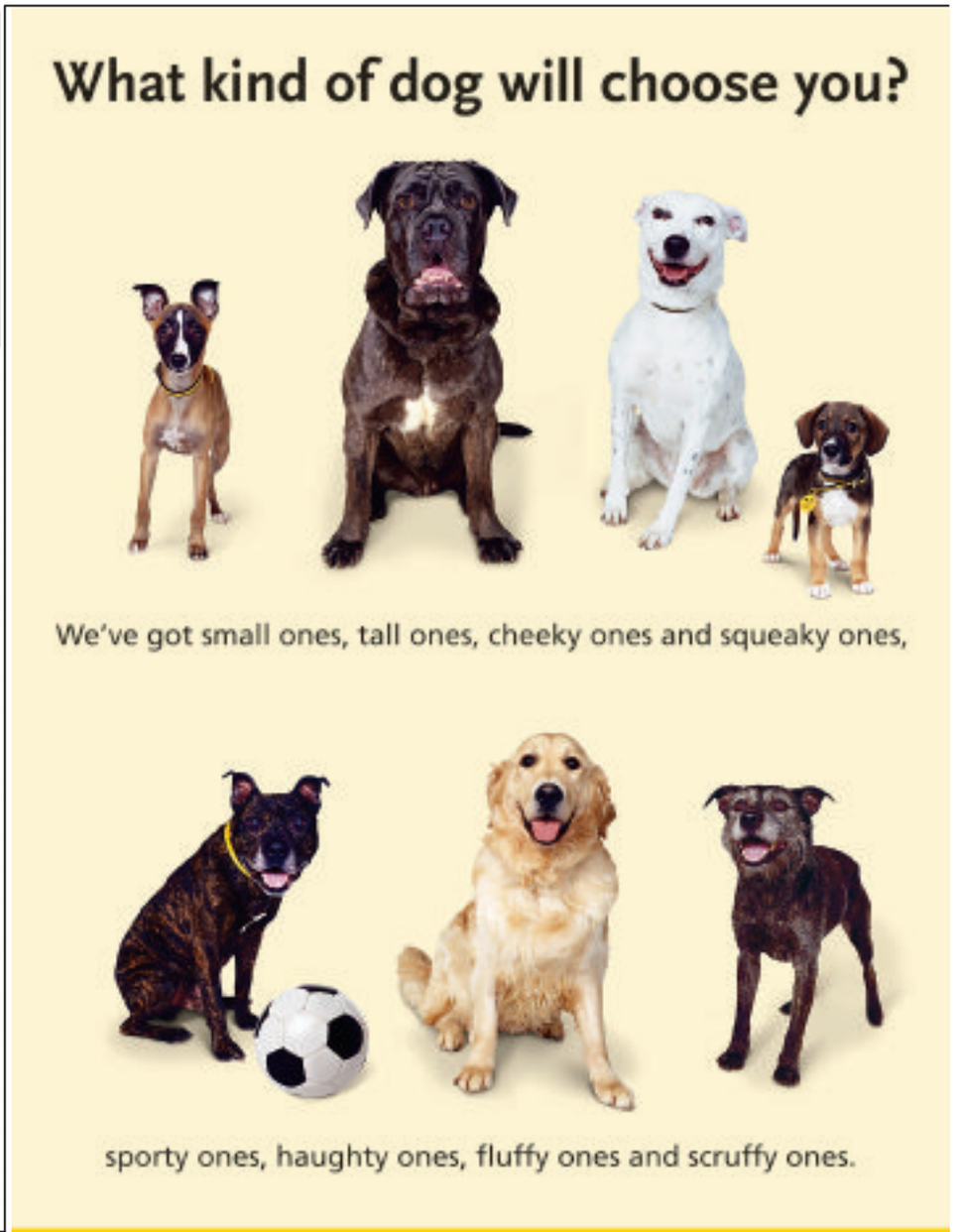
"The horse transport company was advised to remove the horses and we contacted South Wales Police to attend.

"However, the local horse owner removed the horses before the police arrived."

On hearing about the horses, Andrew RT Davies, AM for South Wales Central, whose region includes the Vale, said: "On September 25, I asked the Leader of the House, Jane Hutt, to bring forward a statement on what progress the Welsh Government, made in tackling this matter.

"I have heard nothing to date, so I have repeated my call today in the Chamber of the National Assembly for Wales. The Welsh Government must work with the local authority, the police and animal welfare charities to find a solution.

"Last winter saw many horses abandoned right across the Vale. With winter fast approaching, I am concerned that 12 months on, little progress appears to have been made."



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Despite the critics...

Landmark achievements for people of the Vale

VIEW FROM THE VALE

by Coun **NEIL MOORE** Leader of the Vale of Glamorgan Council

I WOULD like to begin by making a comment about recent allegations and accusations on Labour's pledges on the Local Development Plan (LDP).

Recently, we have been accused of not doing what we said we would do, and there have been many inaccurate and misleading comments in the press.

However, I can confirm this is not the case. We will be taking a report to cabinet and scrutiny committee within the next few weeks, outlining the steps we are taking to produce a sustainable alternative LDP, as promised.

That said, I am pleased to say that there have been some landmark achievements in the Vale in the last month or so. We have celebrated the redevelopment of Cadoxton House, with an official opening attended by the Minister for Local Government and Communities, Carl Sargeant, who was very impressed with the facility.

This redevelopment has been a long time in the making and it is truly a story of the phoenix rising from the ashes, creating a new state-of-the-art facility.

Cadoxton House is now home to a multi-agency community support centre – the Vale's first such centre giving support via the Families First initiative, Atal y Fro, Victim Support and Pen yr Enfys.

The centre also houses the first community-based, live video court link in Wales and England.

The live link aims to relieve the stress for those giving evidence, and provide a secure and more positive experience for witnesses giving evidence in criminal cases.

We have also been pleased to announce with Penarth Arts and Crafts Limited (PACL) that work is starting on the redevelopment of Penarth Pier Pavilion.

The £4 million project will take just over a year to complete and when the pavilion reopens, its facilities will include a cinema, exhibition spaces, bar and a restaurant looking out over the Severn Estuary.

The pier and its pavilion are much-loved by residents and visitors and the council is pleased to be supporting its renovation and will continue to work with PACL to ensure a successful project.

Added to that, Whitbread's new 80-bedroom Premier Inn hotel and Brewers Fayre restaurant on Barry Waterfront has opened, marked by a visit from Huw Lewis, the Housing, Regeneration and Heritage Minister, along with Jane Hutt AM, the Vale's AM and Finance Minister.

This is good news for the local residents who wanted to see a hotel and restaurant on the Waterfront.

The council worked hard to bring this project to the town and I know that local people are already supporting the new venture.

Reservations are flowing in and the hotel is reporting fully booked nights, particularly during rugby's Six Nations Championships.

We have to applaud Whitbread, who have invested £7.5m in this new development, creating local employment with 70 new, full-time and part-time jobs being created and helping to support local businesses.

I am also happy to report that the council's Employment Training Services team worked closely with Whitbread to maximise local employment opportunities from the new development.

Barry's Premier Inn is also one of the greenest and most energy efficient hotels and restaurant developments in south Wales.

It has been a great success and everyone involved should be congratulated.

I look forward to more good news stories next month.

Autumn market

GOOD quality unwanted ladies clothes will be on sale this Saturday (October 20) from 7pm at Bethesda Chapel, Fairoaks, Dinas Powys – and there's no entry charge!

The event is in aid of Hope to Ghana, a Christian charity helping children and families in Ashaiman.

Mother and daughter team up for charity

A MOTHER and daughter team from Penarth are lacing up the old walking boots and hiking around Newport Wetlands in aid of Adoption UK.

Philippa Williams will be setting off with her 13-year-old daughter during the October half-term holiday as part of Adoption Walk Wales – an event encouraging walkers to hike stretches of the new Wales Coast Path between October 28 and November 4 to celebrate National Adoption Week.

Philippa adopted her daughter Katie, who has special needs, when she was 14 months old. She hopes their walk will raise awareness of adoption and the rewards it can bring.

Anyone interested in taking part in the walk can visit: www.adoptionwalkwales.org, or contact: wales@adoptionuk.org.uk, or 02920 230 319. To donate to Philippa and Katie, visit: http://www.justgiving.com/Philippa-Williams2.0.

The Vale unites for April Jones

ON Sunday October 14, the sun shone brightly as people from Penarth, Cogan, Dinas Powys, Sully, Barry and other nearby communities gathered for an 11am start to walk for April Jones, to show those currently searching for the child in Machynlleth that the country is behind them.

Having promoted the event on Facebook, and gained a street collection license, local businesses and individuals came forward to offer their help through items for the walk, such as helium balloons to release on Penarth Pier, to items for raffle such as a signed Cardiff City FC shirt.

The Fig Tree Restaurant on Penarth Seafront offered its terrace for the raffle/auction, as well as donating a meal at their restaurant to be entered into the raffle.

In addition, they provided refreshments to everyone who had taken part following the walk.

At Penarth Pier, they counted down for the balloons to be released, then asked people to take a moment for their own thoughts of April Jones. It was a wonderful sense of community spirit, but also a very emotional moment.

At The Fig Tree, Deputy Mayor Neil Morgan held the auction for the signed CCFC shirt and Sheridan Ward's beautiful signed print of Penarth Pier, and friends Natalie Speake, Sharon Crockett and Emma Shumack conducted the raffle.

The event raised more than £850 and will be sent directly to the 'April Jones Fund' which has been set up by Machynlleth Town Council. The final decision of how donations will be used and distributed will be made by April's family.

Natalie would like to thank all who attended and donated.

Natalie Speake

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Ruby certainly Sparks in cute, kooky comedy

FOR any actor, the ability to write your own scripts and give yourself a film role is a good skill to have.

It worked for Matt Damon and Ben Affleck, who gave their careers a massive rise in profile with the self-penned *Good Will Hunting*, and now Zoe Kazan no doubt hopes it will work for her too in *Ruby Sparks*.

Paul Dano plays Calvin, a struggling writer who creates the character of Ruby to help with his writer's block; but when Ruby actually comes to life (played by Kazan), Calvin must come to terms with how this has happened, and also deal with falling in love with her...

It's highly appropriate that the directors behind *Little Miss Sunshine*, Valerie Faris and Jonathan Dayton, have taken the reigns of *Ruby Sparks*. While the subject matter isn't directly the same, there are still elements in terms of dysfunctional relationships and communication breakdowns that permeate both films.

But Faris and Dayton are well aware that nearly two hours of this would be very hard going, and, thanks to their direction and a sparkling script for Zoe Kazan (granddaughter of the great Elia Kazan), *Ruby Sparks* makes for a cute, kooky comedy with a lightly bitter edge.

The directing duo's style is low-key and intimate, and that's what they offer up here – the film not concerned with visual trickery or flashy editing, instead letting the story, characters and performances speak for themselves.

The sun-kissed beauty of California is lensed with clarity by the pair, the direction stylish without being too stylish and wonderfully focused on the key components.

Of course, blessed with Kazan's wonderful script their job is made that little bit easier, the actress's first screenplay clever, well structured, and full of characters who even with the smallest of screentime feel vivid and full of life.

It would have been easy for Kazan to build the screenplay to show off her talents, but her generosity allows the whole cast to shine, the focus of the film resting more on the character of Calvin and the situation he finds himself in than on the sudden appearance of this previously non-existent woman.

by GARETH JAMIESON

Follow Screen Talk on Twitter - @GEMScreenTalk

The script moves in clever ways, and as the story progresses things take a slight turn for the darker, but even as the comedy gives way to this the film still feels surefooted. Kazan examines the possibilities of being able to control someone through the medium of literature in a realistic and emotional way, the far-out concept never feeling too outlandish or beyond belief.

The performances certainly help in grounding it. Paul Dano is excellent as the awkward literary genius experiencing 'second novel syndrome', and he certainly leads the film well.

Likeable, his chemistry with Kazan (his real-life girlfriend) is understandably excellent, with her turn incredibly peppy and full of verve and personality.

Chris Messina offers good support as Calvin's brother, while the likes of Antonio Banderas, Annette Bening, Steve Coogan and Elliot Gould all shine in a variety of roles with a selection of screentimes.

But the real star of the show is most definitely Kazan, and with an ending that succeeds in being fitting without being underwhelming or too neat, she shows plenty of potential as both a screenwriter and an actress.

Hopefully, *Ruby Sparks* will be a jumping off point for far more from her.

VERDICT – A cute and kooky comedy, *Ruby Sparks* is a wonderful little film that deserves attention. Strong direction from Valerie Faris and Jonathan Dayton, coupled with strong performances, make this well worth a watch, but with a superb turn and an excellent script. Zoe Kazan steals the show and shows she has plenty of potential. Recommended.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Little Miss Sunshine* (2006), *Stranger Than Fiction* (2006)

Workplace stress can be a killer in the hive

NEWS FROM THE FONMON APIARY

NOT much changes. The variations in the weather are still causing problems for the bees and the beekeeper.

Honey production this season has hit an all-time low. All of the colonies have received supplementary feeding at regular intervals (sugar syrup) and of course the Varroa mite is still with us, and is subjecting the bees to a level of stress they could well do without.

What is likely to stress bees? Well, the lack of pollen coming into the hive or lack of it stored within the hive.

Pollen is the protein source that the bees require on a daily basis and should supplies start to dwindle, the bees that control the inner workings of the hive must take steps to address this situation.

How do they do that? To start with, the Queen is induced to lay fewer eggs, which means fewer larvae that will need feeding, but this means fewer bees developing to become foragers who should be returning to the hive with the all important pollen.

If the situation does not improve, the in-house bees will consume eggs and developing larvae. Although this can be construed as cannibalism, it is in fact a way of recovering that all-important protein and it is stored in the internal organs known as fat-bodies. Thus the bees can use this recovered resource as and when required.

That is just the tip of the iceberg as far as a pollen shortage is concerned. Much more is going on in the inner sanctum of the beehive. Should things fail to improve, the survival of the colony is decidedly in jeopardy.

Even when things are going well for the bees, the presence of the varroa mite is a stress-inducing factor, as the breeding cycle of the mite is completed within a sealed cell along with a developing larvae.

Quite apart from the mite using the developing larvae as a breeding ground and as a food source (it punctures the rear end of the larvae and feeds on body fluids) it transfers viruses into the larvae one of which known as 'Deformed Wing Virus'. On emergence, the bee has deformed wings, rendering it unable to function as a successful inmate of the hive.

Many bees emerging in this state mean fewer house bees and consequently less foragers. A colony in this situation is definitely going to be in a stressed state and the law of diminishing returns takes effect and the colony will die out.

What else can bring on stress? Nosema! This is a single cell microsporidian that is ingested by adult bees and it performs its nefarious activity within the mid-gut of the bee. Here, it competes with the bee for nutrition from foodstuffs consumed and as a result the bee never gets enough to eat. This leads to a shortened life-span, resulting in a colony with fewer and fewer occupants, which in turn alters the balance of the hive and consequently stressful conditions arise that can spell doom for any colony.

Of late, a new more virulent strain of nosema has appeared and much could be written on this subject. Suffice to say it is a killer and it behoves all beekeepers to acquaint themselves with this parasite.

Does it cause stress? You can be sure it does, not only to the bees but to the beekeeper as well. Speaking of which, the beekeepers cause much stress through their regular inspections of colonies.

The honeybee is now in a fight for survival, and we as a species (humans) seem to be hastening their demise.

Agricultural practices are making life hard for many pollinators, the changing countryside is a desert as far as many creatures are concerned, so unless the process can be changed before it is to late (perhaps it is to late already) we will be the poorer for it.

HAROLD WILLIAMS

Support group's cake sale

LA LECHE League of Vale of Glamorgan (Llantwit Major) Breastfeeding Support Group, is holding a fundraising event to buy more books and leaflets for the group library and support training costs for another breastfeeding counsellor, on October 25 at 12.45pm-2.45pm in the Children's Centre, St Illtyd's Primary School, Llantwit Major.

Cakes, refreshments, raffle, bric-a-brac, Usbourne books, Phoenix cards. Donations of cakes and bric-a-brac gratefully received. Contact Trish Bennett on 01446 794411.

The group meets every Thursday, 10am-12 noon at the children's centre; all welcome.

All the ingredients for a great Christmas

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Steak & Chips
Truffle & Porcini Mushroom Pasta (V)
• • •
Apple Tarte Tatin
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Glazed Lemon Tart
Singleton Malt Gaelic Coffee
with Mini Mince Pie

For the full menus contact your local restaurant or visit us at www.lochfyne-restaurants.co.uk

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The Glenbrook Inn
FREE HOUSE & RESTAURANT
30th Anniversary Celebrations!

INDEPENDENT AND FAMILY OWNED...

Glenbrook Inn is a community hub – and a community pub!

THE Glenbrook Inn is celebrating 30 years in the Barry community, but what many people don't know is that the O'Leary family, who started the pub, built it on the site of their own farmhouse!

The Glenbrook Inn opened in 1982 and its winning formula over the years has been based on the flexibility of being independent and family-owned.

Liam O'Leary explained: "Originally, it was my grandparents' home and small holding, and was where my father Arthur grew up.

"In 1978, the A4231 Wenvoe to Sully Link Road was built, bisecting the land.

"The family then contracted award-winning licensed trade architects to apply for planning approval to convert the farmhouse into a pub.

"The approval was granted and the Glenbrook was built by my father and his brothers Joseph, Vincent and Peter."

The current restaurant, which has served thousands of meals over the last 30 years, is actually built on part of the old farmhouse!

Arthur, who supervises the family's other Vale establishment, The Cross Inn at Cowbridge, takes up the story: "On October 18, 1982, the pub opened and has since become an established facility for Barry and the local community."

For the first 10 years, it was run by Peter and his wife Joan – latterly Arthur, Vincent and Liam took responsibility for it.

Arthur stressed that part of the pub's success has been due to thinking one step ahead of competitors and providing the best environment for customers.

"The pub has won food and drink awards. It was the first pub in Barry to introduce a high-tech smoking area in January 1997.

"The pub has also won the Barry and Vale in Bloom awards in the Vale eight times during the last 12 years."

Liam emphasised: "Over the years, we've earned a reputation for excellent quality, home made fresh food, along with good ales, wines and beverages.

"Our aim has been to provide a community hub – a place that welcomes families for meals, people who want to have a drink with friends, and organisations like church groups or social clubs that want a friendly meeting place."

The Glenbrook's service to the community includes transforming the car park into a polling station in national and local elections!

Arthur explained: "We've also got a large sports following. We started off with a football team back in 1982, and The Glenbrook Inn now has football, basketball, skittles and cricket teams.

"Customers also like being able to watch Sky Sports daily."

Quizzes take place every Thursday evening in the lounge and every Sunday in the main bar, with a selection of prizes on offer – including a £50 jackpot.

Liam stressed that the award-winning food was a bedrock of what the pub has always offered.

"We offer a wide selection of bar snacks and restaurant meals that often receive great reviews, and if something is not on the menu, our cook is very adaptable to meet a customer's requirements.

"Our Sunday, lunches are served between 12pm and 4.45pm and are made from fresh ingredients, and complemented by our home made gravy."

The pub has extensive, maintained enclosed gardens, a beer garden with an adjacent children's play area and function room, which is a popular facility for christenings, weddings and funeral wakes.

Liam said: "The pub has a wide range of beers and lagers with the majority of well known brands at £2.50 a pint.

"We are one of only two outlets in Barry to serve Peroni premium lager and the only one to offer a fine Czech lager called Kozel.

"To celebrate our 30th anniversary this Thursday, we are taking a trip down memory lane, and will be serving a selection of drinks, typical of the era with Glenbrook's 80s prices, for the first drink only, to our regular customers."

Events for the 30th birthday celebration weekend include:

Thursday, October 18: *A special treat for all regulars with an 80s' price 'drink evening party' with entertainment from a great local cabaret and karaoke artist.*

Friday, October 19: *Entertainment with top eight-piece soul band 'Dansette'*

Saturday, October 20: *Top entertainment with band 'Smoking Aces'.*

Sunday, October 21: *Celtic theme evening with cabaret and karaoke and prizes for best singers and complimentary Welsh and Irish grub!*

Liam added: "We are already taking special meal orders for the Christmas period which are two or three courses – but on Christmas Day there's a five course menu."

The children's play area and gardens.

Barry's popular Glenbrook Inn was built on the site of the O'Leary family's old farmhouse.

Supporting Barry's local fundraising events...

THE Glenbrook Inn's reputation as a community pub was demonstrated by the recent fundraiser for young mum, Vikki Roberts.

It is one of numerous charity events the pub has held over the last three decades.

Local people wanted to send Vikki and her children on a holiday, after Vikki had struggled through a particularly difficult year health-wise.

Liam O'Leary told The GEM: "What a day we had: Children and adults from Palmerstown, Cadoxton, central and west end Barry, Dinas Powys and Penarth, congregated in the grounds of the public house to give their support to Vikki.

"We think that throughout the day, between 900 and 1,000 people turned up!

"The Glenbrook Inn events team organised pitches for an array of stalls,which included cakes, a coconut shire, books, and face painting.

A barbecue was also held.

"Outside entertainment on an external stage in the gardens was organised by Pukka promotions, and featured some talented singers.

"People enjoyed tug of war and the kids enjoyed the bouncy castle.

"The Glenbrook team also organised a prize draw, and finished with an auction which included a signed boxing glove donated by Enzo Macrinelli, another from the Olympic Boxing Team, a signed football and 2012 football shirt donated by Cardiff City Football team, and rugby balls signed by Cardiff Blues and Gwent Dragons."

The event raised a total of £3,129.00.

The Glenbrook emphasised that a number of parties had also offered their services and assistance on the day, including Bridgend Butchers, the Selby brothers, the GB Olympic BoxingTeam, St David's Hotel & Spa, Chuckles Bouncy Castles, Anthony's Bouncy Castles and the Mayor of Barry, Coun Les Sword.

The Glenbrook plans to hold a special presentation evening for Vikki and the family on Saturday, October 27.

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Menu available from Monday 12th November to Saturday 5th January; Lunch & Evening 2 course £12.95 Per Person, Children £6.95 per child; Lunch & Evening 3 course £15.95 per Person, Children £8.95 per child.
TRADITIONAL SUNDAY LUNCHES
Fine home made fresh food served between 12 and 4.45pm. Main course from £6.50.
Function room or bar available free of charge for christenings, funeral wakes or special occasion events (t&c apply).
Entertainment during October & November
Friday 26th October, Band - The Don
Saturday 27th October, Karaoke Comp. Heat 1
Sunday 28th October, Cabaret & Karaoke
Friday 2nd November, Live Band
Saturday 3rd November, Tribute Artists Night
Sunday 4th November, Cabaret & Karaoke
Friday 9th November, Band- Spellbound
Saturday 10th November, Karaoke Comp. Heat 2
Sunday 11th November, Cabaret & Karaoke
Friday 16th November, Live Band-
Saturday 17th November, Karaoke Comp. Heat 3
Sunday 18th November, Cabaret & Karaoke
Friday 23rd November, Live Band
Saturday 24th November, Live Band- Smoking Aces
Sunday 25th November, Cabaret & Karaoke
Friday 30th November, Live Band 'Rockhouse'
"Everything a local pub should be"
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CONGRATULATIONS!
Well done for 30 years of customer service and growth.
Congratulations to The Glenbrook Inn, all the staff and customers!

The Cross Inn is proud to be a partner with The Glenbrook Inn.

Unique collaboration for the arts in south Wales

A BRAND new collaboration that aims to bring more arts development and programmes to south Wales, ArtsConnect, has seen four local authorities come together to deliver arts on a regional level.

By joining forces, sharing resources and working together, they aim to extend and enrich the opportunities offered to audiences, residents and communities – from household name stage shows to local talent, laugh out loud comedy and exceptional development programmes that let rising stars shine.

Bridgend, Merthyr Tydfil, Rhondda Cynon Taf, and the Vale of Glamorgan councils officially launched this initiative on October 11 in a special event which sought to display their achievements to date – including a very special premiere of 'It's My Shout', which is a DVD that has been created by young people from across the ArtsConnect regions.

The event was attended by various dignitaries, including the First Minister for Wales, Carwyn Jones, Professor David Smith (Arts Council for Wales chair), George Jones, (ArtsConnect chair) and cabinet representatives from the four councils.

First Minister Carwyn JonesAM for Bridgend, said: "This project shows how the arts can continue to be part of people's lives despite the pressure on public budgets.

LEFT: First Minister Carwyn Jones.

"It is great to see all these different organisations coming together to continue providing arts services to their communities.

"It shows their determination to retain and improve these services, and by sharing resources, make the money they do have go further".

Attendees were treated to a flash mob performance from Rhondda Cynon Taf's 'Take Part' dance crew.

A spokesperson said: "Their outstanding performance was testament to what can be achieved when local talent from people of all ages and abilities is nurtured and encouraged through innovative arts development."

The collaborative initiative in south Wales aims to increase the quality and range of arts experiences for people living, working in and visiting the region.

The spokesperson added: "As the four councils move forward together, they will hold more power to encourage bigger and better performers in to the region – and hold the key to ensuring that these will be at affordable rates for everyone to enjoy."

Dog of the week

The GEM is in partnership with the Dog's Trust to find caring homes for animals in their charge at Bridgend Rehoming Centre
(Telephone: 01656 725219)

THIS WEEK: Zacky is a three-year old Pointer cross – and Dogs Trust Bridgend's 'most handsome dog!'

"And it's not just skin-deep – he is a friendly and affectionate boy who saves his cuddles for those he knows best. He will make an absolute dream of a companion for any Pointer lovers out there," said Linda Feagan, supporter relations officer.

A date for your diary: Saturday, December 1, 11am-3pm, Dogs Trust Bridgend's Christmas fayre. Come along for festive frolics, Santa's grotto, mince pies and more – all to raise pounds for hounds!

Please also visit our Dogs Trust Boutique at 62, Eastgate (on the high street), Cowbridge, CF71 7AB. Deliver a donation or bag a bargain!

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From China to Barry... New manager returns 'home' to Dow Corning

Dow Corning's new site manager at Barry, Brian Austin, has had no trouble settling into his role

Mr Austin started work with Dow Corning at its Barry plant 20 years ago and his most recent role was out in China.

He will be working alongside Dave Ott for a handover period for the next month, before Mr Ott takes up his new position with the company in the USA.

H e was welcomed by Vale MP Alun Cairns and they discussed the UK Climate Change Bill, which has the objective of reducing energy and carbon emissions across the country.

"Dow Corning has already made many improvements on site and has invested significantly in reducing their emissions," Mr Cairns observed:

"As a community, we need to recognise how important Dow Corning is as a private business employer for us in Barry and the Vale.

"There are real challenges ahead for the management team and staff at Dow Corning, and I'm keen to help them continue their pursuit of excellence in safety and improved efficiencies at the site in Barry."

New Dow Corning site manager, Brian Austin ileft) is greeted by Alun Cairns.

Reggae night for Marie Curie

ON Saturday, October 27, a reggae disco evening and raffle will be held at The Penarth Conservative Club, Stanwell Road, Penarth, in aid of Mari Curie.

Organisers are appealing to the local community to get behind one of the town's great causes.

Tickets are available from the club on 02920 707770 or from Jonathan Morgan on 07557 977702.

OWENS MOTOR SERVICES

Exclusively owned by Alun Butcher.
Alun extends a big thank you to all his customers by offering a **credit busting Christmas Raffle.**

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4th	Prize £100.00	+ Free MoT (Class 4 only)
5th	Prize £50.00	+ Free MoT (Class 4 only)

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Opening on 1 November at 8am.

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Out and About with The GEM

Sgwrs Cymraeg

Mae grw^p sgwrsio Cymraeg yn cwrdd ddydd Iau olaf pob mis o 8:30yn yn Glwb Cymdeithasol y West End, St Nicolas Rd, Y Barri.

Grw^p croesawgar a llac. P'un a ydych yn rhugl, dysgu neu ddim ond eisiau i ymarfer mae croeso i bawb - am fwy o wybodaeth cysylltwch ag Anna ar 07931 849 258.

Welsh chat

A Welsh language and chat group meets on the last Thursday of every month from 8:30pm at the West End Social Club, St Nicholas Rd, Barry.

Whether you are fluent, learning, or just want to brush up, all are welcome.

For more information, contact Anna on 07931849258.

Road works

TEMPORARY traffic control – Barry Docks Link Road, junction of Coldbrook Road and Argae Lane; Port Road, Barry, at the junction with Pencoedtre Lane, Barry.

AM's surgery

THE Vale of Glamorgan AM, Jane Hutt, will be holding a surgery at Murch Community Centre, Dinas Powys tomorrow (Friday, October 19) from 4pm-6pm.

Penarth surgery

ELUNED PARROTT, AM for South Wales Central, will be holding an advice surgery at Tesco Superstore, Terra Nova Way, Penarth, from 1pm to 2pm, on Friday, October 19.

No appointment is necessary.

Craft/gift fayre

THERE will be a craft/gift fayre on October 20 at Brackla Community Centre, Whitethorn Drive, Brackla, Bridgend CF31 2PQ, from 10am-3pm with free entry.

Refreshments will be available all day. We have lots of stalls and something for everyone.

Do some Christmas shopping, have a chat and a cuppa – all welcome!

Further information on 07532 152759.

Clairvoyance

CHRISTINE DAY will be holding a workshop for clairvoyance using flowers on Monday, October 22 (7pm-9pm) at Barry Spiritualist Church & Centre, Buttrills Road. *Admission £3.*

Society AGM

THE Llantwit Major Horticultural Society's AGM is to be held on Wednesday, October 24 in the Llantonian Hall, Llantwit Major at 7.30pm.

A quorum of 30 members is required for this meeting to proceed. Any queries/apologies please contact the secretary Sylvia Geary on 01446 792087. The meeting will be followed by free refreshments.

Flower demo

ON October 24, Penarth Flower Arrangement Club is holdings its last demonstration evening from 7.30pm.

The demonstrator is Janet Graham from Abergavenny, whose theme is 'Pots and Props' at the Masonic Hall, Stanwell Road, Penarth.

Further details from Ann Dobbins on 029 2070 3605.

Gardening club

THE next meeting of the Cowbridge Gardening Club will be held on Thursday, October 25 at 7.30pm in the Lesser Hall, when Claire Breward will talk on 'Preparing a Festive wreath' and other decorations.

New members welcome.

Coastwatch benefit

NELL'S POINT Barry Island Coastwatch are holding a fundraising evening of entertainment with the Barry Male Voice Choir at the Barry Island Community Centre on October 26 at 7.30pm.

Tickets are £5, available at the door, or on 029 2059 2621.

Nell's Point is manned by a team of fully-trained volunteers, providing a daylight coastal watch 365 days of the year, totally dependent on support from the community.

Coffee morning

THERE will be a coffee mornng at Holy Trinity Presbyterian Church Hall, Trinity Street, Barry on Saturday October 27 between 10.30am and 12.30pm in aid of Breakthrough Breast Cancer.

October is Cancer Awareness Month. Entry is £1 to include tea/coffee and we have a variety of stalls selling home-made speciality breads, cakes, savoury and fruit pies, pickles, relishes, Christmas cards, candles, decorations and a raffle.

Pot holes

THE Vale Council's potholes campaign, The BIG Fill, will be in Cadoc ward, Barry, on the weekend of October 27-28.

Residents can report potholes in Cadoc between October 22-26.

Beach watch

ART4U Community Arts Group are holding an event to celebrate the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain – with an illuminated installation on the beach and hot soup on Sunday, October 28 from 5pm at The Knap Pebble Beach, Barry.

Alternative Hallowe'en

ALL Saints Church in Victoria Square, Penarth, is holding a family service on Sunday, October 28 at 10am on the theme of 'Jesus the Light of the World'.

The worship will be suitable for all ages and refreshments are served after the service. All are welcome.

If you are looking for an alternative Hallowe'en event, why not try the Hallelujah party at All Saints Church, Victoria Square, Penarth on Wednesday, October 31 from 5pm-6.30pm?

Food, traditional games, craft activities, music making. Children are welcome to come dressed as their favourite character.

Accompanied children of all ages welcome; admission free.

Buddhist talk

ON Friday, October 29 at Friends Meeting House, 87 Park Street, Bridgend, CF31 4AZ, there will be a talk by Buddhist Lama and teacher Lama Samten on how to cope with difficult emotions.

Lama Samten escaped from Tibet during the Chinese invasion in the early 1960s.

For many years, he was the abbot of the largest Buddhist monastery in New Zealand. *All welcome.*

CALENDAR GIRLS TO GET AN EXTRA DATE!

THE Dinas Powys players have announced an extra performance of the *Calendar Girls* – "owing to huge public demand."

The show is fully booked for November 8, 9, 10 at the Parish Hall, Britway Road, Dinas Powys, spokesman David Warne reported.

"There has been unprecedented demand for tickets to see the show, which is part of the aim of its producers to break into the Guinness Book of Records for the most productions of a play in a year, at the same time as raising money for Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research.

"The Dinas Powys Players are delighted with the public response to this very worthy cause and have arranged an extra performance of *Calendar Girls* on Wednesday, November 7 at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall, Britway Road, Dinas Powys," he said.

For tickets, telephone 02920 512868, 02920 513619 or 01446 720073.

Ty Hafan local lottery winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D744.

- **£2,000:** 283404.
- **The rollover, which now stands at £9,500, was not won this week.**
- **£10:** 655567, 276529, 490898, 375983, 877999, 240728, 687389, 718418, 467715, 959962, 242613, 883489, 188928, 642260, 293274, 314931, 307676, 797757, 685225, 888433.
- **£5:** 323645, 559986, 495488, 455753, 980863, 402025, 105932, 284914, 914288, 446938, 509658, 331274, 617611, 376952, 371733, 617101, 210651, 489796, 222091, 564245, 293778, 800865, 593832, 708248, 868316, 846261, 768910, 119318, 724777, 527823, 542490, 220880, 178525, 839660, 169292, 667262, 290487, 432573, 519145, 546884, 168084, 870476, 749425, 565289, 361243, 557592, 835219, 42970, 148931, 534452, 890062, 491074, 314350, 358104, 337497, 249068, 310260, 815815, 210352, 242612.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.

NCT nearly new sale

AN NCT nearly new sales takes place at Bryntirion Comprehensive School, Bridgend, on November 10, 11am-12.30pm.

Entrance/suggested donation £1/family. Baby/children's clothes, toys, equipment and maternity wear.

Sellers contact Julie on 01656 662564 to pre-register by Wednesday, November 7 or email nctnearlynewsales@live.co.uk

Helpers needed and donations, cakes and raffle prizes gratefully received. Non-members are welcome to buy and sell.

The National Childbirth Trust Vale and Valleys branch (formerly Bridgend, Cowbridge and Llantwit Major branch) are raising funds to train four breastfeeding counsellors and an antenatal teacher.

For more information, http://www.nct.org.uk/in-your-area/southwales Find us on Facebook. 'NCT Vale & Valleys'.

Don't forget...

LLANTWIT MAJOR CRAFT & GIFT FAIRS

Saturday 20th October - Llantonian Hall

(behind the library) **From 10am - 3pm**

Regular and new stalls. Pressies for others, treat yourself and meet your friends for a coffee, a light lunch or tea and cake. Or, just come for a browse. Just don't miss us!

Enquiries, contact Peta Shields
Email:peta@peartreecott.co.uk

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All cats have been neutered & micro-chipped

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Every Friday & Saturday Night - plus Bingo

Friday 19th October
Dean Scott

Saturday 20th October
Jack Thirwell

Friday 26th October
Karaoke

Saturday 27th October
Halloween Fancy Dress Party with 'The Unknowns'

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Thursdays
CURRY & A PINT £5.95
Quiz from 8pm

Food served Thursday & Friday 7-9pm
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Traditional Sunday Lunch
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Cowbridge Food & Drink Festival
27-28 October 2012

Gŵyl Bwyd a Diod Y Bont-Faen
27-28 Hydref 2012

WARM WELCOME AWAITS VISITORS TO COWBRIDGE FOOD & DRINK FESTIVAL

by FESTIVAL CHAIR JOHN DAVIES

IT has been my privilege to be the Chair of the Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival for eight of its nine years, and I have watched it grow and develop each year.

It is very rewarding to know that the Food Festival is now regarded as one of the best festivals in Wales, both by the industry, and by the producers and exhibitors, who are incredibly complimentary about their visits here each year.

Working closely with the committee and event manager, we start working on the next year's event almost as soon as the last one has finished.

A huge 'thank you' goes to all our committee members for their help in the planning of this great event.

This year, we welcome Waitrose as our headline sponsor – they have been really supportive, and I look forward to seeing their amazing plans for their marketing presence in the main marquee.

The Welsh Government has again awarded us a grant and the Vale Council have also provided funds, as well as supporting us with waste management, equipment hire, event consultancy and parking requirements.

To deliver the event costs more than £60,000 each year, which is made up of this funding and sponsorship, as well as the gate and exhibition fees we receive.

Any surplus each year is put into guaranteeing the following year's event and developing the festival in future years.

ABOVE: Pictures from last year's festival - see more from last year on page 28.

This year, we've tried to address some parking concerns and hope that all exhibitors will park in designated areas, and not in the Town Hall car park as in previous years.

We've also moved the food demonstration area, which frees up the front area entirely for increased disabled parking.

The park and ride stops are now the town centre X2 stops, which we hope will increase footfall in town shops, and encourage more traders to hold activities during the festival weekend.

Our aim has always been to build on the amazing food heritage of Cowbridge and the Vale, and showcase this brilliant town, while supporting small producers in difficult times by broadening their audience over a great fun weekend.

We select our exhibitors to give a wide choice of products, some of which you may not see every day.

Thank you again to all those who attend or help us over the weekend – marshalling, on the PA, organising activities to complement the festival, offering their car parks and generally supporting the event each year.

We look forward to welcoming you this year, and hopefully in the years to come.

MAYOR SAYS: 'Let's all have a good time!'

SATURDAY, October 27 sees the start of the annual Cowbridge Food and Drinks Festival – 2010's National Tourism, Best Community Event award winner, boasting a growth in visitors from some 14,000 in 2009 to close on 30,000 in 2011 – a stand alone testament to the huge success and popularity of this wonderful event.

This has to be one of the main events of the Cowbridge calendar and one that no self-respecting food and drink buff can afford to miss, with something for everyone,from the very youngest to the oldest.

I shall be hosting a reception in the Mayor's Parlour, including traditional Welsh cakes, Welsh cheeses, Welsh wine and Welsh whisky, for international Mayors, Town Twinning visitors, from Mouscron in Belgium, Fécamp in France and Rheinfelden in Germany, and visiting the Town Twinning Festival tent where exquisite food and drink from all these towns and countries will be on sale.

Of course, this is just a taster of the many, varied and wonderful stalls and tents which make up the whole festival– not to mention the multitude of exquisite shops and boutiques, restaurants, coffee bars, and much more to enjoy. Why not make a weekend of it and stay at one of our local bed and breakfast establishments or spoil yourselves with a weekend break at the famous Bear Hotel for a real treat? Take your time and visit the many ancient monuments and historic buildings, including the Cowbridge Physic Garden, at your leisure?

There is just so much to see and do around Cowbridge and Llanblethian village.

Such an exciting weekend for us all and I would like to extend a HUGE, WARM, WELSH WELCOME to all, to come and join in the festivities and, hopefully, we will break all the records once again. But, more importantly – LET'S ALL HAVE A JOLLY GOOD TIME!

COUN NICOLA THOMAS
Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian

Vale Of Glamorgan Farmers' Market
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Westbourne School, Penarth
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WHAT'S ON AT THE FOOD AND DRINK FESTIVAL...

Saturday, 27th October

Time	Event	Info
9.30am-5.30pm	Festival and Cheese & Wine Marquees	North Road (ticket office & marquee)
9.30am-5pm	Craft Fair	Vale Forge, North Rd
9.30am	Charles Reardon-Smith, Oxford Wine Co	Town Hall
10am-4pm	Face Painting	Kids' Zone
10am-4pm	Kids' Zone – craft activities & comps	Nominal charge for materials used
10am-5pm	Festival Fringe – including kids' workshops!	The Old Hall Annex & Gardens
10am-6pm	Champagne Marquee & Bar	Everyone welcome, North Rd
10.15am	Richard Johns - Arboreal, Cowbridge	Presented by Frances Donovan
10.30am	Solano Pena Lenzi	Presented by Charles Reardon-Smith
11am	Circus Skills Workshop	Entertainment Zone @ Barefoot
11am-11pm	Real Ale Festival	Vale of Glamorgan Inn
11.30am	Mark Levison, Louis Roederer Maisons	Presented by Charles Reardon-Smith
11.30am	St Clare's School, Porthcawl	Presented by Frances Donovan
12pm	Magic Show	Entertainment Zone @ Barefoot
12.30pm	Alec Street, Wines from Adria Vini	Presented by Charles Reardon-Smith
12.45pm	Anand George – Purple Poppadom	Presented by Frances Donovan
1pm	Twmpath Workshop	Entertainment Zone @ Barefoot
1.30pm	Pablo Gonzalez Byass, Beronia Rioja	Presented by Charles Reardon-Smith
2pm	Balloon Modelling	Entertainment Zone @ Barefoot
2pm	Tina Moss – Cornerhouse Cookery	Presented by Frances Donovan
2.30pm	James Clark, Glenfarclas	Presented by Charles Reardon-Smith
3pm	Magic Show	Entertainment Zone @ Barefoot
3.15pm	Aum Rotjarin Scott – Thai Elephant	Presented by Frances Donovan
3.30pm	Mike Roberts, Wales Academy of Wine	Presented by Charles Reardon-Smith
4pm	Gem Cake Competition Judging	Kids' Zone @ Lesser Town Hall
4.30pm	Richard Arnold, Really Welsh/Calon Wen	Presented by Charles Reardon-Smith

Sunday, 28th October

Time	Event	Info
9.30am	Charles Reardon-Smith, Oxford Wine Co	Town Hall
10am-4pm	Festival and Cheese & Wine Marquees	North Road (Ticket Office & marquee)
10am-4pm	Craft Fair	Vale Forge, North Rd
10am	Guy Nightingale, McKinley Vintners	Presented by Charles Reardon-Smith
12pm-6pm	Champagne Marquee & Bar	Everyone welcome, North Rd
10.30am	Wayne Thomas, Canteen on Clifton Street	Presented by Frances Donovan
11am-4pm	Festival Fringe – including kids' workshops!	The Old Hall Annex & Gardens
11am-3pm	Face Painting	Kids' Zone
11am-3pm	Kids' Zone – craft activities & comps	Nominal charge for materials used
11am	Circus Skills Workshop	Entertainment Zone @ Barefoot
11am-11pm	Real Ale Festival	Vale of Glamorgan Inn
12pm	Karen Crews, Mysteries of Bordeaux Blend	Presented by Charles Reardon-Smith
12pm	Magic Show	Entertainment Zone @ Barefoot
12pm	Ali Haigh – Food Consultant, Waitrose	Presented by Frances Donovan
1pm	Twmpath Workshop	Entertainment Zone @ Barefoot
1.30pm	Pablo Gonzalez Byass, Beronia Rioja	Presented by Charles Reardon-Smith
1.30pm	Angela Gray – Llanerch Vineyard	Presented by Frances Donovan
2pm	Balloon Modelling	Entertainment Zone @ Barefoot
2.30pm	James Clark, Glenfarclas	Presented by Charles Reardon-Smith
3pm	David Lawal – Living Cafe	Presented by Frances Donovan
3pm	Pumpkin Competition Judging	Kids' Zone @ Lesser Town Hall
3.30pm	Richard Arnold, Really Welsh/Calon Wen	Presented by Charles Reardon-Smith
4.30pm	Nicola Allison, Chateau du Seuil Graves	Presented by Charles Reardon-Smith

Festival's important role for Welsh food culture

There was high praise for the way the festival has grown from Vale AM Jane Hutt

She said: "I am delighted to welcome visitors to the Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival, which is supported by the Welsh Government.

"Food Festivals play such an important role in developing a Welsh food culture, which is recognised worldwide.

"The Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival is a major event in the festival calendar for Wales. Visitors to this fantastic event will also get to enjoy the wonderful attractions of the historic market town of Cowbridge."

Park and Ride to the festival centre!

A FREE park and ride scheme will be in operation throughout the weekend (*daytime only*) and this year will drop visitors right in the heart of Cowbridge town centre – at the existing X2 bus stops.

If travelling from the Bridgend direction, drivers will be directed by the new AA signs to the Llwynhelig Farm park and ride site.

From the Cardiff direction, motorists will be directed to the Cowbridge School park and ride site.

Buses and parking are free of charge and the service will run every 30 minutes from each site, returning at the same intervals.

A spokeswoman said: "Following comments that traders would benefit if visitors could alight the park and ride buses in the centre of town, the Vale Council has approved the use of the town centre bus stops on the High Street.

"It is hoped that this development will encourage more visitors into town centre shops, particularly if traders are offering special festival events or offers."

The timetable of buses will be clearly marked and will go every half hour from each of the stops.

The Park and Ride sites remain the same:– Cowbridge School if travelling from Cardiff direction or Llwynhelig Farm, just off the A48 from the Bridgend direction.

The Park and Ride system remains free of charge for all, to encourage as many as possible to use this facility.

The spokeswoman continued: "The committee has also responded to feedback that the town hall car park should be freed for visitors to the town.

"This year, the front right-hand section will no longer be used for demonstration vehicles, and the Vale Council has agreed this will be used as increased designated disabled parking for the duration of the festival.

"Exhibitors will now be directed to other parking sites and if they are found to be parking in the town hall car park, the penalty will be that they won't be invited to attend in 2013."

Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival event manager, Polly Wilson, said: "Tweaks to parking and traffic arrangements are made annually, to ensure the festival runs as smoothly as possible for everyone involved.

"We are hugely grateful to the Health Centre, who are providing extra exhibitor parking sites this year, as well as the wonderful Cowbridge Cricket Club, who marshal the public parking in all weathers every year.

"A big thank you to everyone involved."

For more information on events, exhibitors and entertainment, visit www.cowbridgefoodanddrink.org

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CHAMPAGNE MARQUEE

THIS has become a very popular element of the Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival – and for those of you who want the weekend to go with a pop, a visit to the champagne marquee is a must.

A variety of champagne and prosecco, from £20 per bottle, will be on offer – as well as wine, beers, spirits and soft drinks.

There will also be a barbecue on site and live music with Aubrey and The Watchmen band. We advise that you get there early as seating is limited.

Entry is free to all, no tickets required! Open Saturday, 10am-7pm and Sunday,, 12 noon-6pm

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The Vale of Glamorgan now a 'Heart Borough'

British Heart Foundation CYMRU

Vale Of Glamorgan Heart Borough

Love our borough • Love your heart

THE Vale Council has become the fifth area in Wales to sign up as a British Heart Foundation (BHF) 'Heart Borough'.

Heart and Circulatory Disease (cardiovascular disease or CVD) is the main cause of death within Wales.

The BHF is a major funder and authority in cardiovascular research and plays an important role in funding education, both of the public, and of health professionals – and in providing life-saving cardiac equipment and support for rehabilitation and care.

There is also much that can be done to reduce the risk of heart disease by encouraging healthy eating, active living and reducing smoking.

In its 50th year, the BHF launched the '*Mending Broken Hearts Appeal*'. The goal is simple: to fund the research that could begin to 'mend broken hearts' in as little as 10 years and save and improve the lives of millions within decades.

A key aim is to create 'Heart Towns' and 'Heart Counties' across the UK.

Being a 'Heart Borough' ensures: delivery of play equipment to schools across the Vale; launching a health at work initiative for employers and workplaces; providing a wide range of healthy lifestyle booklets at council premises; and annual events in the community to support the work of the British Heart Foundation.

The Mayor of Vale, Coun Hacker, said: "The Vale Council is delighted to work with the BHF.

"We are committed to improving the health and wellbeing of all people within our community and are pleased to support the BHF in encouraging healthy lifestyles."

Sharon Owen, fundraising manager for the BHF, explained: "The next few months will see a number of activities to celebrate the healthy borough campaign – with plenty of opportunity for people across the Vale to take part.

"We are delighted to have been chosen to become Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival's charity this year!"

For further information, contact Sharon Owen on 02920 382408 or email: owensh@bhf.org.uk.

Street entertainers

TO add to the festival's carnival atmosphere, as well as the children's entertainers, musicians will be meandering through the town and in the marquees – adding delight to the vibrant pageantry.

Returning for another year will be Fiddlebox, the roving violin and accordion duo (*www.helenadam.com/fiddlebox*).

Over the weekend, they will be joined by several quirky combos, including 'Gaudy Orde', 'Sneaky Earnest', 'Thoby Davis' and 'The Flip Flops' courtesy of *www.setholiver.co.uk*

Not just good food, there's some fine entertainment, too!

A LIVELY and varied array of family entertainment will be available in the Entertainment Zone at Barefoot Studio (*www.barefootstudio.co.uk*)

A festival spokesman said: "Our thanks go to Karen and Paula for the use of this space.

"There is an extensive entertainment and workshop schedule on offer."

THE LINE-UP:

11am, **Circus Skills Workshop** (Simon Sparkles/The Magnificent Johno);

12pm, **Magic Show** (Simon Sparkles/The Magnificent Johno);

1pm, **Twmpath Workshop** (Fiddlebox);

2pm **Balloon Modelling** (Simon Sparkles/The Magnificent Johno);

3pm, **Magic Show** (Simon Sparkles/The Magnificent Johno) – Saturday only.

The ever-popular **Bird of Prey** (*www.falconry-uk.org*) will be back for petting and picture taking, as well as quirky catering provided by *www.veedoublemoo.co.uk* which will be serving delicious churros and other tasty treats!

The spokesman also revealed: "This year, we welcome **Play Aloud** to the Entertainment Zone.

"Play Aloud is part of an exciting three-year Big Lottery Funded Partnership that provides play opportunities for children and young people aged 5 to 14 years old.

"They will be providing information on their project, as well as holding activities over the weekend.

"Play Aloud works with communities across the Vale to run weekly play sessions, and aims to recruit volunteers to make these sessions sustainable. They could be coming to your area soon!

"On Sunday, October 28, one of Barefoot's resident practitioners will be holding two taster sessions in the studio.

"Specialising in food issues, Sue Pitman of Cardiff of **Hypnotherapy Solutions** will be exploring how our brain works; how stress and anxiety stops us losing weight, no matter how healthily we eat; the Cortisol effect; and finishing off with a brief relaxation session."

Each session will last approximately 30 minutes and will run at 12pm and 2pm.

The Cowbridge Food & Drink Festival

The Mayor of The Vale of Glamorgan Council, Councillor Eric Hacker, would like to wish everyone involved with Cowbridge Food & Drink Festival a happy and successful weekend.

Hoffai Maer Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, y Cynghorydd Eric Hacker, ddymuno penwythnos hapus a llwyddiannus i bawb sy'n ymwneud â Gwyl Win, Diod a Bwyd Celtaidd y Bont-faen.

Ready for something delicious?

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Bydd eich Waitrose newydd yn agor yn y Bont-faen ar 1 Tachwedd.

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Talk and taste at the Cowbridge Town Hall

Saturday, October 27

9.30am – Charles Reardon Smith, The Oxford Wine Company Limited

THE multi-award-winning Oxford Wine Company has shops in Oxford, Tetbury, Cirencester and Standlake.

A selection is available at RB's, High Street, Cowbridge. They have kindly secured all the great speakers at the festival and supplied many of the tasters.

A local boy, Charles Reardon Smith has the Advanced WSET qualification and started enjoying wine when his mother was running 'Off The Beeton Track' at 1, Town Hall Square, Cowbridge.

10.30am – Solano Pena Lenzi – EL Supremo, The New Wines of Argentina-Hispania Ltd

THIS selection of Argentinian wines covers a range of regions, product types and price points currently available in the UK.

11.30am – Mark Levison, Louis Roederer Maisons Marques A Grand Marque Champagne – Roederer Cristal Champagne

ROEDERER is one of the largest remaining independent Champagne Houses, founded in 1776. Roederer's wines are always rich, elegant and well rounded.

12.30pm – Alec Street – wines from Adria Vini, Piemonte, Italy (sponsored by The Bush Inn, St Hilary)

EXPLORING the wines from the Adria Vini, Piemonte region of Italy.

Le Dolci Colline Spumante Prosecco, Il Meridione Catarratto, Sicily, Il Meridione Nero d'Avola, Sicily, Vinazza GPG, Gavi del Commune di Gavi Nuovo Quadro, Conan Barbera d'Asti.

1.30pm – Pablo Gonzalez Byass Beronia Rioja (not just sherry, sponsored by Bar 44 Tapas Bar, Cowbridge and Penarth)

A TASTING and tour of one of the oldest wine companies in the world, founded more than 175 years ago.

Gonzalez Byass remains passionate about producing wines of exceptional and consistent quality and is famous for its world class range of sherry.

2.30pm – James Clark, Glenfarclas single malt Scotch whisky

TO this day, Glenfarclas is one of only a few distilleries in Scotland to remain family-owned and managed.

Now in the hands of the fifth and sixth generation of the family, the Grants remain committed to the vision of creating the best quality Single Highland Malt Scotch Whisky, in the traditional Speyside style.

3.30pm – Mike Roberts, Wales' Academy of Wine – a wine tour of the Iberian Peninsular wines

MIKE ROBERTS is a former producer, who has returned to Wales to run Wales' Academy of Wine.

His interest in wines and spirits began while working at HTV and his company was created to produce a documentary series called 'Ten Green Bottles' that he directed and co-wrote.

4.30pm – Richard Arnold Really Welsh/Calon Wen

THE Proper Welsh Milk Company was started early in 2011, with production at its own brand new dairy in Whitland.

Proper Welsh aims to keep milk production in Wales, employ people in the dairy industry, and keep the food miles of their milk to an absolute minimum.

Sunday, October 28

9.30am – Charles Reardon Smith, Oxford Wine Company, Wines of Argentina, Solano Pena Lenzi – EL Supremo – Hispania Ltd **(SEE ABOVE).**

10am – Guy Nightingale, McKinley Vintners New Burgundy and French Wines

The McKinley Vintners partnership began in 1986, when Peter and Di McKinley began distributing Champagne Gosset in the UK.

Today, they distribute their portfolio throughout the UK, via a network of regional wholesalers outside the M25, and directly to the customer within the M25.

They also offer a service tailored to the requirements of your business – be it on-trade, or off-trade.

From their diverse portfolio of more than 500 champagnes, wines and spirits, they have something to please every palate – list, shelf or menu!

12 noon – Masterclass with Karen Ellis: the mystique of the Bordeaux blend

JOIN us for an in-depth look at and tasting of, the blends used in Bordeaux red wine.

Tickets £14 in advance; please contact Karen on 07970 606087; *karen@ellisk9.fsnet.co.uk* or post payment to Ellis Fine Wines, 28 Plasturton Gardens, Pontcanna, Cardiff, CF11 9HF.

1.30pm – Pablo Gonzalez Byass **(SEE ABOVE).**

2.30pm – James Clark, Glenfarclas single malt scotch whisky **(SEE ABOVE).**

3.30pm – Richard Arnold, Really Welsh/Calon Wen **(SEE ABOVE).**

4.30pm – Charles Reardon Smith/Nicola Allison, owner, Chateau du Seuil Graves AOC Bordeaux

THE estate of Chateau du Seuil encompasses a total of 25 hectares of vines, of which approximately 65 per cent are planted in red varieties of Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon – and 35 per cent in the white varieties of Semillon and Sauvignon Blanc.

There are 15 hectares in the Graves appellation and 10 hectares in the Premières Côtes de Bordeaux appellation. Visit: *http://www.chateauduseuil.com/.*

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Roll Up, Roll Up

Daisy & Jack Children's Emporium is a one stop shop for all your child's needs. Located in the heart of Cowbridge in the Vale of Glamorgan we stock unique, beautiful, funky and classical designer clothing brands, a large range of toys, gifts, American candy and sweets.

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- Win Green

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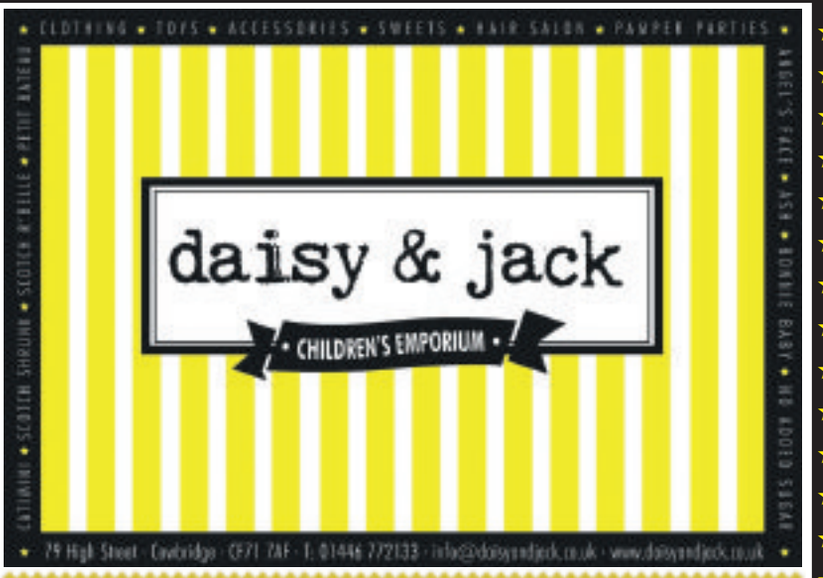

COMPANY	NOTES	MARKETING INFO
Artisan Cakes	www.artisancakes.co.uk	A range of cupcakes and displays of special occasion and celebration cakes.
Benporium Candy Fleece	www.benporium.co.uk	A range of freshly spun sugar products and freshly made popcorn, containing no artificial colours or flavours.
Best of Taste Co Ltd	www.bestoftaste.co.uk	Fruit coulis and dessert sauces.
Black Mountain Gold	www.blackmountainchocolate.co.uk	Amazing array of handmade artisan chocolates.
Black Mountains Smokery	www.smoked-foods.co.uk	Full range of naturally smoked foods including outstanding salmon.
Blaenafon Cheddar Co Ltd	www.chunkofcheese.co.uk	Handmade speciality Welsh cheddar and goats cheeses, hampers, crackers, chutneys.
Caermynydd Piggery	www.caermynydd-piggery.co.uk	Family-run piggery, using traditional pigs and farming methods with delicious results.
Caerphilly Preserves	02920 830802	Sumptuous, innovative flavours, with a minimum of sugar, additives, processing and cooking, make for addictive fruit spreads.
Calon Wen Organic	www.calonwen-cymru.com	A mixture of different dairy products including, organic milk, cheese and yogurts.
Carne Arms with Pwllywrach Farm	www.carnearms.co.uk	Hot, locally-reared delicious beef rolls.
Caroline's Real Bread Co	www.carolinesrealbreadcompany.co.uk	A wide range of breads, bread pudding and fruit loaf.
Caws Cenarth Cheese	www.cawscenarth.co.uk	A wide range of artisan cheeses including perl las blue, perl wen, golden cenarth etc.
Celtic Spirit Company Ltd	www.celticspirit.co.uk	A wide selection of liqueurs and spirits.
Chocolate Brownie Company	www.chocbrownieco.co.uk	A variety of different flavour brownies, served either as a dessert portion, deli portion or warm with cream.
Chocolate House	www.chocolate-house.co.uk	A selection of handmade pralines, truffles, bars and children's items.
Choices from Fine Dining	www.finedining.co.uk	Delicious fresh dishes made with seasonal, local produce before your very eyes.
Cocoa Magic	www.cocoamagic.co.uk	100 per cent handmade chocolates with a Welsh theme.
Cothi Valley Goats	01558 685555	Amazing range of delicious artisan goats cheeses to suit all tastes.
Cowpots Icecream	www.cowpotsicecream.co.uk	Dairy ice creams and brie-style cheeses.
Cradocs Savoury Biscuits	01874 624339	The complete range of cradocs savoury biscuits.
Cwm Deri Vineyard	www.cwm-deri.co.uk	A range of wines and liqueurs.
Devon Fishcakes	07429 282151	A mixture of fresh fish cakes, fish pies, fish snips, pates and shellfish.
Elm Tree Foods	www.elmtreefoods.com	Savory heritage meat and vegetarian pies including hot crust pork pies, large cold meat slicing pies, cornish style pasties and home produced honey.
Fruity Bouquets	www.fruitybouquets.co.uk	Edible fruit arrangements suitable for all occasions.
Garlic Farm	www.thegarlicfarm.co.uk	A variety of different garlic products including chutneys, oils and seasonings.
Gillys	www.gillysfoods.com	A mixture of dressings, marinades, chutneys and garlic.
Glam Lamb	www.glamlamb.co.uk	Cooked lamb burgers served with minted mayonnaise.
Glamorgan Gem	www.cowbridge-today.co.uk	Our media partner will be providing the Festival Guide as well as running a great hamper raffle in aid of British Heart Foundation.
Glamorgan Vale Hog Roast	01291 650378	Pedigree Welsh pork served in a soft bap with apple sauce.
Glyndwr Vineyard	www.glyndwrvineyard.co.uk	A range of wines including, Welsh red, white, rose, and vintage sparkling wines.
Gorno's Speciality Foods	www.gornosausages.co.uk	Gluten-free barbecued sausage served with baguette salad and a range of continental sauces. Chilled continental cured meats.
Graffeg	www.graffeg.com	Wide range of cookery and foodie books. Winners of Gourmand World Cook Book Awards - Best in Wales.
Great House Farm	01446 772344	Locally reared lamb produce.
Greta's Wholefoodies	www.gretaswholefoodies.com	Award winning veggie burgers served hot or frozen to take away.
Gwatkin Cider Co Ltd	www.gwatkincider.co.uk	Real farmhouse cider.
Gwynt-Y-Ddraig Cider Ltd	www.gwyntcider.com	A range of bottled and drought farmhouse ciders.
Handmade Scotch Eggs Co	www.handmadescotcheggs.co.uk	Over 40 varieties of handmade scotch eggs.
Hendrewennol Fruit Garden	www.hendrewennol.com	A range of different jams, honeys, fruit slices, muffins and chutneys.
Herbal Connections	www.herbalconnections.co.uk	Speciality dried herbs and spices.
Homemade Country Preserves & Diabetic Products	www.homemadecountrypreserves.co.uk	A range of diabetic jams, chutneys and sauces.
Hotdays Coldays	01633 681563	A choice of two homemade soups and a non-alcoholic mulled wine.
Identilase	www.identilase.com	A range of different kitchen appliances in slate, including coasters, placemats, cheeseboards and trays.
Jones Organic Ltd	www.jones-organic.com	Organic handmade rustic speciality loaves, organic welsh butter croissants and organic handmade scones.
Kitchen Knives	www.cutco.co.uk	A range of different kitchen utensils including knives, oak storage blocks and cutlery.
La Crème Patisserie	www.lacremepatisserie.co.uk	A range of different deserts and pastries.
La Creperie de Sophie	www.lacreperiedesophie.com	Good quality crêpes and buckwheat gluten free galettes.
Lewis Fine Foods	01656 749441	Delicious range of baked produce and Welsh cakes.
Llanerch	www.llanerch-vineyard.co.uk	Locally produced Cariad wine, wine tours and cookery school.
Ludlow Nut Co	www.ludlownutco.co.uk	Award winning luxury muesli and porridge mixes, cereal bars, nuts, dried fruit etc.
New Quay Honey Farm	www.thehoneyfarm.co.uk	A real working honey farm producing truly natural products.
Olive Stall	01656 729305	Olives and deli products.
Otley Brewery	www.otleybrewing.co.uk	Locally produce real ale.
Parsnipship Ltd	www.theparsnipship.co.uk	Vegetarian and vegan cuisine.
Penlon Cottage Brewery	www.penlon.biz	Vegetarian friendly cold bottled ales, lagers and filtered beers.
Popty Cara	www.poptycara.co.uk	A variety of Welsh cakes including a gluten free and diabetic range.
Pudding Shop	www.puddingshop.co.uk	A mixture of baked, steamed and savory puddings.
Pwllywrach Farm	www.welshangusbeef.co.uk	Welsh Angus Beef.
Pyman Pates	www.pymanpates.co.uk	A wide selection of free range gluten free pates, including one vegetarian pate.
Riverford Organics	www.riverfordhomedelivery.co.uk	A mixture of organic fruit and vegetables.
SamosaCo	www.samosaco.co.uk	Wide selection of meat/vegetarian gluten/dairy free curries, samosas, pakoras and a wide range of gluten free sauces/mixes.
Seasons Farm Foods	01443 673466	Faggots and gravy, pies, pasties, savory slices and scotch eggs.
Slade Farm Organics	www.sladefarmorganics.com	A range of different organic fresh meats including, beef, lamb, pork, homemade bacon and sausages.
Snowdonia Cheese Company	www.snowdonia-cheese.co.uk	A variety of waxed truckles of cheese.
Teifi Farmhouse Cheese/Organic Whisky	www.teificheese.com	Great selection of cheese and amazing organic whisky.
Thai Orchid Catering	01446 795113	Hot Thai food freshly made.
Tipsy Fruit Gins Ltd	www.tipsyfruitgins.co.uk	A mix of gin and vodka based fruit liqueurs.
Trioni Ltd	www.trioni.com	Organic flavoured milk; flavours include strawberry, banana and chocolate.
Usk River	www.uskriver.co.uk	Offers a selection of chutneys, relishes, pickles and jams.
Van Goffi	www.vangoffi.co.uk	A variety of hot and cold drinks including coffee, hot chocolate, tea and full fruit juices and smoothies.
Venison from the Vale	www.healthyvenison.co.uk	Prime organic venison burgers and steaks.
Waitrose	www.waitrose.com	We are very grateful to Waitrose for their kind support as our Headline Sponsor for 2012!
Welsh Brew Tea	www.welshbrewtea.com	Full range of Welsh brew products.
Welsh Mustard Co	www.welshmustard.com	A range of five different sauces.
Wernddu Wine & Vineyard	www.wernddu.com	A range of wine, cider, perry and alpaca garments.
Wessex Pantry	www.wessexpantry.co.uk	Offers a wide range of meats including, game, beef, chicken, venison etc.
Why Not Hot	www.whynothot.co.uk	A range of fresh chillis, chilli sauces, chutneys, salsas and jellies
Wooden It Be Nice	www.wibnice.co.uk	Wooden kitchen implements and tools.
Worthy Cheddar	www.worthycheddar.co.uk	A mixture of organic cheddar and Cornish blue.
Yellow House Kitchen	www.yellowhousekitchen.co.uk	A mixture of fresh charcuterie, peddio olive oil, Welsh cocktails & a small range of meats in a bap with Welsh relishes.

FOOD DEMONSTRATIONS

THE food demonstration area this year will be to the rear of Xantippe on North Road – directly opposite the main marquee site.

A festival spokeswoman said: "Thanks so much to Sarah and John for the use of this brilliantly central site".

The schedule offers a wide variety of interesting and fun demos to suit all palates and levels of ability.

Attendance is free of charge including any information sheets and tasters.

Saturday, October 27.

10.15am – Richard Johns, a sous chef at Arboreal restaurant in Cowbridge (*www.arboreal.uk.com*), will be opening the day.

Arboreal has attracted attention for its imaginative fusion of Middle Eastern flavours and locally-sourced ingredients.

Richard will explaining the thinking behind the restaurant's new winter menu, and cooking some of the standout dishes.

11.30am – St Clare's School, Porthcawl (*www.stclares-school.co.uk*)

This demo is a chance to discover ideas for child-friendly culinary creations from a chef of St. Clare's School in Porthcawl, who will cook up healthy, inexpensive meals that keep children's concentration up, and hunger at bay.

St Clare's is an independent day school for children aged two-and-a-half to 18 years in Newtown, Porthcawl.

12.45pm – Anand George of the Purple Poppadom (*www.purplepoppadom.com*)

Chef Anand George, the founder of the Welsh Curry House of the Year award-winning Purple Poppadom restaurant in Cardiff, will be demonstrating his innovative art of 'Nouvelle Indian Cuisine.'

This year, he is presenting a masterclass on his award-winning 'Tiffin Sea Bass' dish.

Visitors will also receive a free recipe leaflet to help to re-create his intriguing creation at home.

2.00pm – Tina Moss, Cornerhouse Cookery (*www.cornerhousecookery.co.uk*)

Tina Moss from Cornerhouse Cookery school will be demonstrating the sort of dishes you can learn in one of her popular classes, held in Whitchurch, Cardiff.

Among the treats on offer are the easiest, quickest, most moreish garlic flatbreads – using a surprising ingredient – and carrots, onions and chillis have never tasted so good together in Tina's delicious savoury feast.

3.15pm – Aum Rotjarin Scott, The Thai Elephant, Cowbridge (*www.thaielephantcowbridge.com*)

The Thai Elephant restaurants in Cowbridge and Swansea are run by husband and wife team Chris and Aum.

They strive to bring to their customers an authentic taste and feel of Thailand, with chefs trained in some of Thailand's top hotels and restaurants

Sunday, October 28

10.30am – Wayne Thomas, Canteen on Clifton Street (*www.canteenonclifton-street.com*)

Wayne Thomas is co-chef and co-owner of Canteen on Clifton Street in Cardiff – a vegetarian restaurant that has taken the city by storm.

Since opening, Canteen has been nominated for numerous awards, including being shortlisted for the Vegetarian Society Award for best vegetarian food in both 2008 and 2009.

12pm Ali Haigh, Food Consultant, Waitrose (*www.waitrose.com*)

A company spokesperson said: "We're here, come and join us! Waitrose is very excited about opening its new store in Cowbridge, so why not come and celebrate with us at our stand?

"There will be food tastings to try and local suppliers to meet.

"What's more, consultant chef Ali Haigh will be demonstrating one of our favourite Waitrose recipes. "

1.30pm – Angela Gray, Llanerch Vineyard Cookery School (*www.angelagray.co.uk*)

Angela Gray will be sharing a few best-loved recipes from her lunch club and Saturday morning kitchen sessions at Llanerch Vineyard Cookery School.

Expect a feast of seasonal goodies, culinary chat, including the latest news from her regular segment on *The One Show* with Jay Rayner.

3pm – David Lawal, Living Coffee, Verity's Court, Cowbridge

David grew up cooking with his grandma on his family farm in Inverness, Jamaica. For this year's Food and Drink festival, he will be showing how to make one of the island's favourite dishes – curried goat served with rice and peas.

The dish will be available throughout the festival from Living Coffee, in Verity's Court (behind Arthur John's).

Come and join us at the Festival...

TINA MOSS.

ABOVE: ANAND GEORGE.

ABOVE: ANGELA GRAY.

The familiar sign of Living Coffee, run by David Lawal.

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THE CHAMPAGNE BAR

at the

Cowbridge Food & Drink Festival 2012

OPEN

Saturday 27th October: 10am-7pm

Saturday 28th October: 12noon-6pm

No tickets required, free entry to all on Saturday & Sunday.

Full Bar available as well as Prosecco & Champagne.

BBQ all weekend serving Aberdeen Angus Burgers from Pwyll-y-Wrach Farm in Colwinston.

Free live music from Aubrey, all weekend, who is joined on Sunday afternoon by the newly reformed band - The Watchmen.

We are situated behind Lloyds Bank opposite the main show site.

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A Night to Remember with Radio presenter 'Wiggy'

PARTY NIGHT DATES . . .

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In our Lavish Marquee from 17th - 22nd December

Join Santa & Wiggy and the Christmas Crew for a TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

Other Dates Available

CHRISTMAS MENU

STARTERS
Homemade Vegetable Soup pf the day
Course cut Country Pate served with toast
Prawn Cocktail served on fresh salad and brown bread

MAINS
Roast Glamorgan Turkey with Stuffing
Welsh Sirloin of Beef served with Yorkshire Pudding
Roast Breast of Chicken with Stuffing
Pan Fried Salmon with Lemon and Parsley
Hand Cut 10oz Rib Eye Steak
Seasonal Vegetable Wellington (v)

£19.99

DESSERTS
Choose from our range of hot and cold deserts on the night
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RETURN TRANSPORT AVAILABLE FOR £5 PER PERSON

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Monday, 5th November
Tickets now on sale!

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EVERY SUNDAY from 8pm

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Cowbridge activities – plenty for all to do!

Kids zone

THE Lesser Hall will be packed with crafty activities and stalls for kids of all ages.

This is also where you will find the ever popular face painters (*www.dandy-doodles.co.uk*), as well as the Usborne Books stall – so you can start your Christmas shopping!

Activities will include dreamy delights – delicious cupcake decorating, salt craft – Halloween-themed salts with CHAM, and a craft table with mask and card making.

Venture Cardiff will be showing off their studio work – offering complimentary mini shoots, taking pics of your lovely creations, as well as finding the 'Face of the Festival' and information on their special offers.

Please note: activities may have a nominal charge.

Competitions

ON Saturday, October 27, the competition is to create a cake that incorporates the word 'GEM'.

This will be judged at 4pm and cakes must be collected by 5.30pm when the venue will close (cakes will not be tasted and will be judged on appearance alone).

On Sunday, we again invite your carved pumpkins ready for your Halloween celebrations.

Judging will take place at 3pm and pumpkins must be collected by 4pm when the venue will close.

Both competitions are kindly sponsored by The GEM, who will be providing prizes for first, second and third.

Crèche at Fun Foundations Day Nursery

ONCE you have experienced all the crafts and workshops with your children, you may want to browse the stalls in the knowledge your child is safe and well.

Fun Foundations is an established nursery with all the relevant safeguards and checks in place to run an event-specific crèche.

For further information on prices, time slots, location etc, or to make a booking, contact: amy@funfoundationsdaynursery.co.uk, call: 01446 771117, or visit: www.funfoundations-daynursery.co.uk.

Other activities

HUBCOWBRIDGE will be providing children's workshops, firing up a community cob oven and offering a food 'fringe' in support of the main events at the 2012 Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival.

Based in the Old Hall college annexe, two-hour children's workshops will be offered, alongside stalls and displays from small local suppliers including:

Riverside Market Garden – local organic veg boxes; food projects; local artists; crafters and makers.

WI (country market) – providing teas/coffees/cakes.

Out to Learn Willow – selling lovely food baskets and lots of hands-on weaving activities for adults and children.

Cowbridge Radio – our new community station broadcasting live from the annexe!

Town Hall Museum – 11am-4pm on Saturday of the festival – a wealth of military and domestic remains unearthed by Cowbridge archeological digs as well as the very eery historical prison cells.

The Physic Garden – on the site of the old grammar school, to the rear of the Old Hall, is maturing beautifully and worth a visit at all times of the year.

Here you can see a re-creation of the historical garden, with many plants thought to have a medicinal nature, as well as rare beauties such as cowslips.

Real Ale Festival (Vale of Glamorgan Inn) – will be offering a vast range of real ales, lagers and ciders.

The event is as old as CFDF and continues to go from strength-to-strength, with marquees at the rear of the pub to accommodate the thirsty customers.

Live music and food is also on offer throughout the weekend.

Craft fayre (The Old Wool Barn and North Road) – The Old Wool Barn's collection of professional artists will open to show their work in their workshops.

Plus, CraftFolk are holding a fayre in Vale Forge, with more than 35 exhibitors with their own ceramics, metalwork, woodwork and more unusual items. A great opportunity to start your Christmas shopping.

Vale of Glamorgan Twinning Association host their own marquee near the town hall car park.

Each of the towns twinned with the Vale have a stall offering local produce and specialties for sale.

Expect to enjoy cheeses, wine, pate and other delicacies from Fecamp in Normandy, Belgian chocolates, Belgian beers and freshly-cooked waffles from Mouscron; while from Rheinfelden in Germany, sample Black Forest ham and sausages and have a sip of schnapps!

The VGTA also offer more local delicacies.

The Bear Hotel is holding a huge range of activities over the festival weekend.

In their courtyard, they are hosting several pop-up restaurants to suit every palate – and tutored wine tastings will be on offer in the Quentin Suite.

OSCARS

For good food, excellent service and a great time!

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We serve the freshest local produce.

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www.oscarsofcowbridge.com

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www.funfoundationsdaynursery.co.uk

10% discount for each additional sibling registered. Childcare vouchers accepted.

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The Bear Hotel

Lunch or dine in one of our stylish bars or Cellars Dining Room.

See our chef's daily specials or indulge in our gastro menus and delicious desserts.

Cowbridge Food & Drink Festival
Sat Oct 27th & Sun Oct 28th.
Marquee in the Courtyard
Sunday Carvery - please call to book!

63 High Street, Cowbridge CF71 7AF
Tel: 01446 774814 • www.bearhotel.com

COWBRIDGE COMPOST RECYCLING CENTRE

SAVE MONEY...FEEL GOOD!

Our commercial food waste collection service is well underway – Why not join many of the Vale businesses in recycling your kitchen waste and save landfill.

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John Homfay 07973 611033
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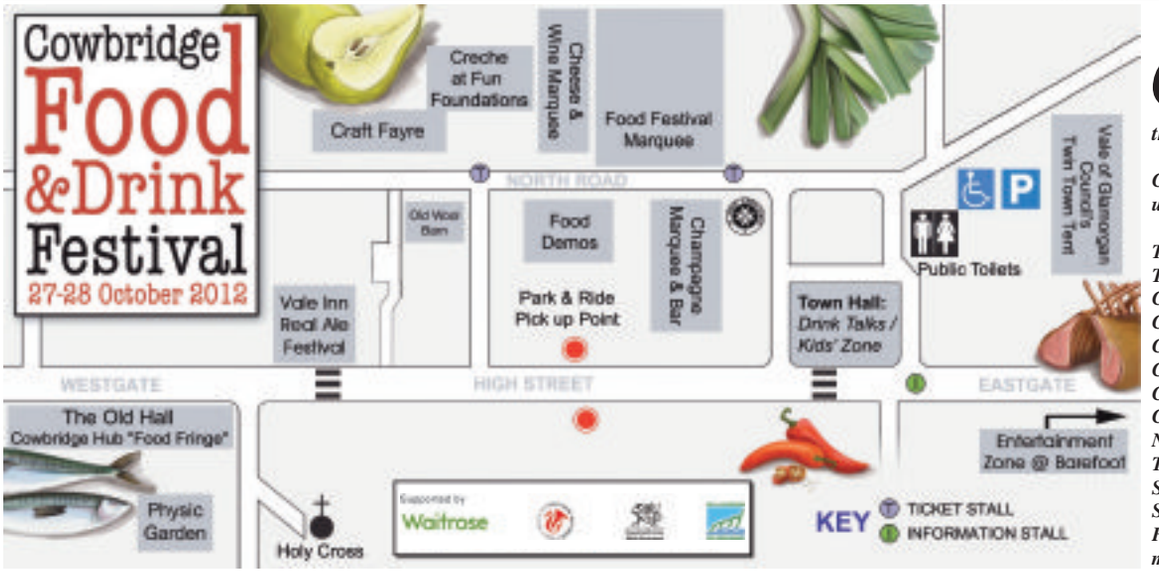

Acknowledgements

COWBRIDGE Food and Drink Festival committee thank all our funders, sponsors and supporters for their help with the 2012 festival.

Funders – the Welsh Government and Vale Council; sponsors – Waitrose; major contributors – Arthur John & Co, Vale 4x4, HSBC.

Thanks to – 2300 Sqn and 293 Sqn Air Training Corps; 750 Cowbridge Charter Trust; Barefoot Studios; Cowbridge Chamber of Trade; Cowbridge Comprehensive School; Cowbridge Cricket Club; The GEM; Cowbridge Health Centre; Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council; Creative Rural Communities; Effective Communication; Fun Foundations Day Nursery; HSBC; Hub Cowbridge; Lloyds TSB Bank plc; Lois, Llwynhelig Farm; South Wales Police; St John Ambulance; Sustainable Wales; Watts Coaches; West Farm Veterinary Clinic; Xantippe; all committee members and the town of Cowbridge.

A LOOK BACK AT LAST YEAR'S FESTIVAL – THROUGH A GEM CAMERAMAN'S EYE!

The Farmers Arms
ABERTHIN, COWBRIDGE
OPEN ALL DAY

Food Served
LUNCHTIME:
Mon-Sat 12noon-2.30pm
EVENINGS:
Tue-Sun from 6pm

SUNDAY LUNCH
- A Must!
Served 12 noon-4pm
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CHRISTMAS MENU
From 1st December
Lunchtime: 3 Courses £15.95
Evenings: 3 Courses £19.95

New cosy log fire
Ample parking
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A warm welcome awaits - see you soon...

Supported by Waitrose

Photographs by
ANDY WICKS

AS always, The GEM was there throughout the two days last year, to record an annual event that is now one of the most eagerly-anticipated in the Vale of Glamorgan calendar, attracting 'foodies' and visitors from an ever-widening area as the word spreads.

The organisers are confident that this year's Food & Drink Festival will be every bit as successful and will further enhance its growing reputation.

Arthur John & Co.
Cowbridge Comprehensive School
HSBC
Gwyl Bwyd a Diod Y Bont-Faen
Cowbridge Food &Drink Festival
barefoot studio
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COWBRIDGE HEALTH CENTRE

GEM LETTERS EXTRA...GEM LETTERS EXTRA...GEM

'Vale's new LDP will set out plans for the next 15 years'

IN recent correspondence with the press, Alun Cairns MP refers to the minutes of meetings with Welsh Government civil servants in discussions about the deposit LDP.

These minutes have been disputed with the councillors present, who do not agree with the content. It is clear that the civil servants in the Welsh Government have used their own phrases to describe what the Labour – Llantwit First coalition are doing with the LDP, as they try to fit our actions to their formal set stages.

However, these disputed minutes do not alter the fact that we are not building on the Tories' LDP. We have scrapped it and will be producing a new one.

The new LDP will set out plans for the development of the Vale for the next 15 years, so there is a lot to consider, and not just about housing.

It's about business development, transport, sustainability, protection of heritage and countryside and all the varied land uses in the Vale.

It would be very wrong of us to rush into making announcements before we've given the matter full and careful thought.

It's a shame that our political opponents have tried to use the fact that we are taking the matter seriously and giving it the time it deserves, to attack us.

When the new deposit LDP is produced I would hope that they will use their time and energy in making sure that everyone in the Vale has the chance to contribute to the new, clearer and much better consultation that will follow, unlike the last time when they produced their flawed and unsustainable plan.

During the election campaign, no-one in my ward, Illtyd, knew about the previous Tory deposit LDP or so-called consultation until we told them. This will not be the case when our plan is released for consultation.

Rhona Probert,
(Councillor for Illtyd ward)

GEM NOTE:
Our postbag was so swollen by letters on this subject that pressure of space has meant some have had to be held over until next week.

'THE NEW LDP WILL BE REBORN SOON'

THE LDP continues to take centre stage in local media and so it should: the Local Development Plan is the key document which will guide the development of our communities over the next 15 years.

It not only decides where development should take place, but what infrastructure such as jobs, transport, schools etc are needed.

I'm delighted that people in the Vale are concerned and want to be involved in discussions.

That's exactly why we campaigned against attempts to push through what we felt was such an unsustainable plan just before the May election.

The new administration has, since May, carried out a root and branch review of the work to date on the Local Development Plan.

Despite recent reports, letters and articles in the press, there is no truth in the comments that we are going back on promises made before the election.

At the time, we stated that we felt the Draft Local Development Plan was not sustainable. Our first action was to review the strategy put in place by the last Labour-led administration back in 2007, to underpin its development.

We found that still sound and very relevant, so we set about exploring how, in our opinion, the deposit plan had gone so wrong.

The key issue for me is that, whereas the strategy itself is sound, there are questions to be asked as to how the draft LDP has interpreted that strategy.

We formed the view that it does not address shortcomings in infrastructure, and fails to deal with key issues relating to traffic growth and congestion.

We also confirmed our view that the consultation carried out was not satisfactory and far too complicated.

As cabinet member with responsibility for an LDP, I remain committed that the end product will address these concerns.

Developing a new sustainable plan takes a lot of work and involves numerous meetings, discussions and telephone conversations between council officers and Welsh Government officials as well as those between Coun Neil Moore, myself, and Welsh Government Ministers, to explore all the options open to us in putting forward an alternative and sustainable LDP.

We have also explored ways of ensuring that future consultation is more meaningful, and easier for all those with an interest to get involved and to make their voice heard.

I read with interest the comments made through the press of those who support the previous administration in the Vale, who thrust the current deposit plan upon us.

Mr Alun Cairns, in particular, attempts to prove, by waving an unapproved note from a civil servant, that failed to even spell my name correctly, some sort of deceit on our part.

I can, however, assure readers that the plan that will be presented to the Inspector as our final version will not be the same plan.

It will be a sustainable, credible plan, which will take all views into account.

I am confident at that point people will agree that we did in fact scrap the LDP.

Coun Lis Burnett
(Cabinet member for regeneration, innovation, planning and transportation, Vale Council)

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012

Development that may affect a Conservation Area / Datblygu a allai effeithio ar Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No:/ Rhif y cais:	2012/01052/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig:	Construction of two bedroom detached house with associated car parking
Location:/Lleoliad:	Belgrave House, Factory Road, Llanblethian, Cowbridge
Conservation Area:/ Ardal Gadwraeth	Llanblethian

Conservation Area Consent / Caniatâd Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No:/ Rhif y cais:	2012/01051/CAC
Proposal:/Cynnig:	Demolition of existing garage
Location:/Lleoliad:	Belgrave House, Factory Road, Llanblethian, Cowbridge
Conservation Area:/ Ardal Gadwraeth	Llanblethian

Listed Building Consent/ Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/ Rhif y cais:	2012/01054/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig:	Roof repairs including eradication of rot and beetle damage, incorporation of new steelwork, maintenance hatches and new slate roof covering - re-submitted of previous approved application No. 2006/01618/LBC
Location:/Lleoliad:	Fonmon Castle, Fonmon, Barry
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig	Grade I

Application No:/ Rhif y cais:	2012/01055/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig:	To erect a commemorative Blue Plaque relating to the history of 6 and 7, Church Street which were originally one house
Location:/Lleoliad:	6 and 7, Church Street, Cowbridge
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig	Grade II

Affecting setting of a Listed Building/ Cais (au) sy'n effeithio ar leoliad Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/ Rhif y cais:	2012/01068/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig:	Detached two storey building to provide ancillary office space
Location:/Lleoliad:	Land at the rear 33, High Street, Cowbridge
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig	Affecting 33, High Street, Cowbridge, Grade II

Application(s) of General Interest/ Ceisiadau o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol

Application No:/ Rhif y cais:	2012/01024/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig:	Proposed extension to the existing park to include for 15 caravan and 30 tent additional pitches and toilet block
Location:/Lleoliad:	No. 1 New Barn (Happy Jakes Touring Caravan Park), Flemingston

Departure from Development Plan / Gwyro o'r Cynllun Datblygu

Application No:/ Rhif y cais:	2012/01025/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig:	Construction of new single storey retail unit (Use Class A1) adjacent to Briscombe Cleaning Services.
Location:/Lleoliad:	Briscombe Cleaning Services, Cardiff Road, Barry

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via **http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/**

Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy **http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/**

Dated / Dyddiedig: 18 October, 2012

M. Goldsworthy, Operational Manager Development & Building Control, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4RT

Problems in living up to a pledge

I REFER to the recent letters and articles in The GEM referring to Labour's manifesto commitment – to 'Scrap the Local Development Plan'.

I suspect the promise was not a lie: it may have had more to do with misguided rhetoric, self-deception, an unawareness of the planning profession's dominance, just plain ignorance, or short-term political advantage.

Any way you look at it, we at least deserve an apology (*aka* 'a Nick Clegg') and a few resignations.

I was equally appalled at the Conservative's attempts to ambush us with complexity and a lack of consultation regarding the draft Local Development Plan.

The Liberals' promise about tuition fees and Osborne's "*We're all in it together*" nonsense are other fine examples of the political party's capacity to mislead, to promise high, and their inability to deliver.

It is not surprising that many people no longer believe, respect or trust political parties.

Crucially, however, is the letter from V Marsh, 'U-turn or review on the Vale LDP?' (*The GEM, October 11*) which is evidence that the promise to scrap the LDP persuaded some to change their vote and that could be the most significant factor with this fiasco.

Voters beware: the gulf between an electoral pledge and the ability to live up to the promise is very wide indeed.

Dennis Harkus,
FocusBARRY supporter

M.P.N. Windows... Simply the Best

Customers vote MPN best in Wales!
.....Six-times World Snooker Champion presents award

The family-run window and conservatory company - that has showrooms in Cardiff, Swansea, Neath, Port Talbot, Bridgend and Aberdare - has been voted best in Wales in a national consumer survey.

MPN's trophy comes from the independent window installers' organisation Network VEKA, a unique, sectoral standards organisation that only accepts the very best, most professional window and door companies, and then makes sure they stay the best. All prospective members undergo rigorous vetting before being accepted and must agree to regular audits and training. In this way, Network VEKA can be so confident in the quality of its members' work that every one is able to offer the organisation's ten year insurance-backed guarantee.

The result was calculated from the Customer Satisfaction returns of nearly 16,000 households across Britain and Ireland - every single customer of every member company for the whole year, with the award being presented by snooker legend Steve Davis at Network VEKA's AGM in Cheshire.

Six-times World Champion Steve, who is also the Brand Ambassador for Network VEKA, told the MPN team: "All Network VEKA members maintain incredibly high standards, so you really are competing against the best of the best. Congratulations."

MPN's Paul Webster collected the trophy and said of the win: "Our reputation is very important to us and we are extremely committed to customer service. It's great to be recognised for all our hard work."

Steve Davis presents the trophy to Paul & Melanie Webster and Paul & Hannah Glastonbury.

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Ramblers drink in magnificent views of Tintern Abbey

THE atmospheric beauty of Tintern Abbey was the backdrop when seven walkers joined Joy on a beautiful autumnal morning along the River Wye.

Viking long ships are said to have rowed up the Wye to Monmouth,

Being surrounded by hills with little road access, the river became a commercial waterway carrying coal, iron ore, charcoal, wood and stone to the Severn Estuary in flat-bottomed trows which could have weighed up to 100-tons.

The footbridge that connected the wireworks to the railway led the group across the river from where they climbed gradually along woodland paths towards Offa's Dyke, an ancient monument which divided England from Wales and was constructed from Prestatyn in north Wales to Chepstow in the south.

They passed other walkers and dogs and, unusually, two Friesian cows that had evidently escaped from somewhere and seemed more startled by the presence of walkers than the sheer drop at the side of the path.

Behind the Devil's Pulpit lay the remains of an old quarry that supplied the stone which formed the base of the pathways and an interesting old yew tree whose roots had grown out of pure limestone rock.

Having drunk in the views of the ruined Tintern Abbey in the valley below, they continued along muddy pathways to reach a meadow above Brockweir where lunch was enjoyed in warm sunshine.

Having descended to Brockweir and re-crossed the river into Wales, they tramped the disused railway track past an interesting sculpture by Neil Gow containing various carved creatures.

Tintern Old Station is now a recreational area containing the Circle of Legends – six life-sized sculptures carved mainly in oak depicting famous historical characters in the Monmouthshire area.

From the riverbank, they passed through Tintern village after what had been an interesting and enjoyable stroll through history.

On October 20, meet at 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a nine-mile moderate walk in the Sirhowy Valley; contact Clive on 029 20654156.

On October 21, meet at 10am at Cogan for a six mile moderate walk at Cefn Onn; contact Pam on 029 20255102.

On October 23, meet at 9am at Cogan for a 10 mile moderate walk at Penllergaer Forest; contact Terry on 029 20706315.

Rucksack badges, programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 20255102.

Joy Strangward

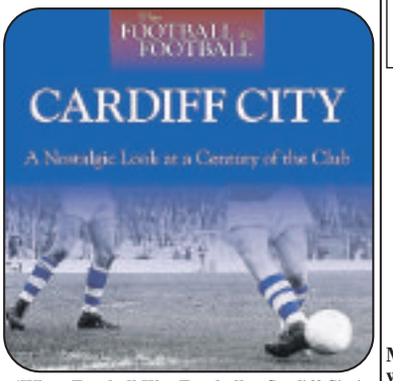
A nostalgic look at the flight of the Bluebirds

MANY books have been published about Cardiff City FC, but *When Football Was Football – Cardiff City* by Neil Palmer, and published by Haynes at £20, is one of the better ones.

The book charts the highs and lows of the club, with photographs from the Daily Mirror's picture library.

One of the highs was, of course, winning the 1927 FA Cup and quite rightly a number of pages are devoted to that great occasion.

Many of the legends of Ninian Park are featured, including Hughie Ferguson, Fred Keenor, John Toshack, Robin Friday, Trevor Ford – and the greatest of them all, perhaps, John Charles.



'When Football Was Football – Cardiff City', by Neil Palmer.

Charles played 66 times for the club scoring 19 goals in a two-year spell.

The Gentle Giant – as he was known – may have had his greatest days behind him when he came to Cardiff for £25,000 in 1963 but he still gave everything to the Bluebirds and was a real crowd puller.

The foreword to this coffee table book has been written by another Cardiff City legend, Phil Dwyer, who writes: "I was born in the Grangetown area of Cardiff, and Cardiff City Football Club has run right through my veins all my life.

"From my early schooldays of climbing over the wall into the Bob Bank for nothing, and watching the likes of Ivor Allchurch, Derek Tapscott and the legendary John Charles, to my last-ever game for the Bluebirds in 1985, a home defeat to Notts County, this club will always be part of me."

And, no doubt, so say many other Cardiff City fans. ***BRIAN* LEE**

Friends of Velindre's hold table top sale

THE Friends of Velindre are holding a table top sale in the Velindre Hospital outpatients' department on Saturday October 27 from 10am-2pm.

Sellers can hire a table for £10 or bring their own table for £6. Admission is free to the public, and refreshments and disability facilities are available.

For further details and to book a table contact Vince on 07977 222721 or Louise on 029 20316259.

RECORDS BROKEN AT PLANT SALE

RIGHT: One of the flower displays at Penmark.

MAYBE the cold weather meant gardeners hadn't been able to grow their own plants, maybe it was just that the weather was so good, or maybe it was our story in The GEM – but we had a record attendance at our plant and produce sale in Penmark.

There were lots of plants of all sorts for sale. In fact, there were too many for the tables and we had a lot on the floor.

There was the usual good range of jams and a fine, selection of excellent cakes if, perhaps, not quite as many as usual.

Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves even when they were 'persuaded' to buy raffle tickets, and anyone who needed a rest could get tea, coffee and a seat (as well as a free biscuit) before going on with their shopping.

Last year's sale raised over £600 – £200 more than our previous best; this year we broke that record by making £725 for village hall funds.

There were too many people involved to mention all the names, but the village hall committee is very grateful to the three people who did most of the organising and to everyone who helped and turned up to buy.

Remember, next year if you need plants, Penmark's the place to come for them.

GAVIN DAVIES
(*Hon Sec, village hall committee*)

COWBRIDGE JUNIOR RUGBY ROUND-UP

Under-15s demolish Brecon in tough test

COWBRIDGE under-15s entertained Brecon RFC who had won their two previous games by very high margins, so this looked like being a good test for the boys.

The game got off to a flying start with Ben Jones taking the ball from the kick-off and running the ball in for the first try that Eugene Richards converted. This was quickly followed by tries from Nathan Robson, Tom Lucas, Rian Thomas and Joe Davies to give Cowbridge a half-time lead of 29-0.

The Brecon players dug in deep and Cowbridge were forced to defend their line doggedly on several occasions but would not give in to the pressure to the obvious delight of their coaches.

The Cowbridge pack was dominant at the scrum and the ruck areas and this led to further second half tries for Tom Lucas, Rian Thomas, Matt Harper and Hywel Williams – three of which were converted by Matt Harper.

The final score was 56-3 to Cowbridge – a big thank you to referee Jacob Ellis for officiating the match.

Squad: George Thomas, Tom Evans, Jac Davies, Jack Anderson, Fraser McGhan, Ed Couzens, Ellis Poulden, Luke John, Ben Jones, Joe Davies, Josh Brace, Hywel Williams, Tom Lucas, Matt Harper, Ashford Thomas, James Bennett, Rian Thomas, Pete Anderson, Eugene Richards, Nathan Robson.

GD

Under-12s away-day success

COWBRIDGE under-12s travelled away to Ystrad Rhondda for the first time in a couple of years.

The boys proved too good for the Rhondda team, coming away 48-5 winners.

The game's first try came from a great run by prop Barty Norton. Ioan Williams, playing scrum half, fed Thomas Humphreys who sped off down the wing only to be tackled just short of the line. Ioan Williams made a simple blind side pass to Ruben Williams who strolled over for an easy opening try. Ioan Williams converted.

A simple but very effective backs move created the second try of the game. Evan Thomas at 10, made a great dummy scissors move with his inside centre, Barny Langton-Cryer, to create some space and a superb pass put Ed Lewis in for a clear run to the line.

Ystrad Rhondda were under constant pressure and from one of their defensive clearing kicks the left wing, Brad Downes, collected the bouncing ball to scamper over in the corner.

The Cowbridge forwards were battling hard to gain possession of the ball for the backs to do what the backs do so well.

A great steal by Jack Little on the floor allowed Ioan Williams to get his back line moving.

With some simple passing along the line Harry Edwards, the right wing, found himself free with over half the length of the field to go. Edwards outpaced the covering Ystrad defence to score under the posts. Ioan Williams converted.

Thomas Humphreys scored the next try, following a great run by Langton-Cryer, who was brought down just on the line. Humphreys was first to the breakdown to flop over for his try.

Ben Jones and Iestyn Fenn were working hard as the back row duo to turnover as much ball as possible from the larger Ystrad pack. It was from one of these turnovers the next try came from. Ioan Williams fed Evan Thomas who found Ruben Williams lurking in centre. The No8 barged his way through a couple of tackles to score under the posts. Ioan Williams converted.

In the second half Ystrad came back hard and did not let their heads drop, they continued to tackle hard and gave the forwards a harder game than the scoreline suggests.

Defending for large periods of time Ystrad continued to try and kick their way out of their own half, it was one from one of these clearing kicks that Ruben Williams made a great run deep into the Ystrad half.

It was great support work from Langton-Cryer that allowed Williams to offload the ball just short of the line for an easy Langton-Cryer try. Ioan Williams converted. Straight from the resulting kick-off Thomas Humphreys had another great run and fed Ruben Williams who scored from just inside his own half.

The final score of the game was a well-deserved forwards effort from Ystrad. The pack kept the ball for numerous phases of play and finally crossed the Cowbridge line with a few minutes remaining.

GJ

Under-9s defeat

ON a beautiful sunny autumn morning in the heart of the Rhondda, Cowbridge under-9s were outclassed in this contest against Ystrad Rhondda.

The match was played over three sessions of 10 minutes each which saw the valley side run out convincing winners by 10 tries to four.

The first session set Cowbridge on the back foot as Ystrad Rhondda's offloading game created try scoring opportunities.

The first session ended four tries to none as the home team pounced on Cowbridge errors.

The second session saw 12 new players introduced but it proved to be more of the same as too many tackles were missed again.

Cowbridge did finally get on the scoreboard as a well-taken corner try by Will Ryan was followed up by an excellent touchline sprint by Lewys Robins.

However, Ystrad Rhondda won the session 5-2, leaving the match situation 9-2.

To Cowbridge's credit the last session was edged 2-1 with far more application shown by all the squad. Ruben Davies scored two excellent tries which was supported by far better defence, giving the scoreboard a slightly healthier look.

Ystrad Rhondda were undoubtly the better (and bigger) side but hopefully the under-9s will come back stronger from the experience next week.

Once again Cowbridge turned out 23 players which shows the healthy numbers that the under-9s can turn out each week.

Squad: Harry Treharne, Ruben Davies, Will Ryan, Ollie Jones, Will Harris, Steffan Evans, Akka Guwy, Ethan Francis, Lewys Robins, Ifor Rees, Rhys Pritchard, Iolo Davies, Tom C, Finlay Brace, Archie Lloyd, James Jones, Luke Treadwell, Finlay Sullivan, Finlay Ball, Robbie Brown, Tom Brennan, Alfie Rees and Sam Payne.

MF

Beth's winner

***COPPER Carroll*, an eight-year-old bay mare owned and trained by the Vale's Beth Roberts, won the 32Red Conditional Jockey's Handicap Hurdle over three miles at Ffos Las on Sunday.**

Ridden by James Cowley, a 5lb claiming jockey, former Welsh point-to-pointer *Copper Carroll* won by two-and-a-quarter lengths from *Matrow's Lady* at odds of 7-1.

Copper Carroll is a stable companion to the prolific *Chesnut Annie*, who is also a winner over the course.

BRIAN LEE

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (RHOOSE LEVEL CROSSING) (ROAD CLOSURE) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2012

The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), and of all other enabling powers intends in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below: -

SCHEDULE 1

No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to proceed in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location The highway that extends over the level crossing known as Station Road, from Torbay Terrace to a point 60m in a southwesterly direction to a point adjacent to the pumping station.

Reason To allow for essential track maintenance works to be carried out

Duration From 18.00hrs on Saturday 27th October 2012, for a maximum period of 18 months. However, it is anticipated that the closures will only be in operation from 18.00hrs on Saturday 27th October 2012 until 06.00Hrs on Monday 5th November 2012, and again from 22.00Hrs on Saturday 19th January until 06.00Hrs on Monday 28th January 2013.

Alt. Route Diversions for northeast bound vehicles shall be via Heol Y Pentir, Trem Echni, Pentir Y De, Porthkerry Road, Rhoose Road, Station Road and visa-versa.

Signing: Appropriate temporary signing will indicate the alternative route.

NB: PEDESTRIAN ACCESS WILL BE MAINTAINED AT ALL TIMES BUT WILL BE STRICTLY CONTROLLED BY THE CONTRACTOR.

Dated this 18th day of October 2012.

M. E. Punter,
Director of Visible Services & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

GORCHYMYN (CAU FFORDD DROS DRO) (CROESFAN REILFFORDD Y RHWS) CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG 2012

Bydd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, gan arfer ei bwerau o dan Adran 14(1)(b) Deddf Rheoli Traffig 1984 (ddiwygiedig), a phob p?er galluogi arall, yn gwneud Gorchymyn ymhen o leiaf saith niwrnod ar ôl dyddiad yr Hysbysiad hwn a fydd yn cael yr effaith gyffredinol a ddisgrifir yn yr atodlenni isod:-

ATODLEN 1

Ni fydd neb yn gyrru nac yn caniatáu i neb arall yrru modur yn y lleoliad a nodwyd yn Atodlen 2 isod.

ATODLEN 2

Lleoliad Y briffordd a adwaenir fel Station Road, sy'n ymestyn ar draws y groesfan reilffordd o Torbay Terrace hyd at fan 60 medr i'r de orllewin a man arall gyferbyn â'r orsaf bwmpio.

Rheswm Er mwyn gwneud gwaith cynnal a chadw hanfodol ar y cledrau.

Cyfnod O 18.00 ar ddydd Sadwrn 27 Hydref 2012, am 18 mis fan bellaf. Serch hynny, rhagwelwn mai dim ond o 18.00 ar ddydd Sadwrn 27 Hydref 2012 hyd 06.00 ar ddydd Llun 5 Tachwedd 2012, ac o 22.00 ar ddydd Sadwrn 19 Ionawr hyd 06.00 ar ddydd Llun 28 Ionawr 2013, y bydd y ffordd ar gau.

Ffordd arall Bydd traffig sy'n teithio i'r gogledd ddwyrain yn cael ei ddargyfeirio ar hyd Heol y Pentir, Trem Echni, Pentir y De, Porthkerry Road, Rhoose Road, Station Road a vice-versa.

Arwyddion: Bydd arwyddion priodol dros dro'n dangos y ffordd arall.

D.S.: BYDD MYNEDIAD I GERDDWYR AR HYD YR AMSER O DAN REOLAETH LEM Y CONTRACTWR.

Dyddiedig 18 Hydref 2012.

M. E. Punter,
Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Gweladwy a Thai,
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Canolfan yr Alpau, Gwenfô. CF5 6AA.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (UN-NAMED ROAD, TREE DELL, SIGINGSTONE) (ROAD CLOSURE) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2012

The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), and of all other enabling powers intends in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below: -

SCHEDULE 1

No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to proceed in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location The un-named road, between Llantwit Major Road at grid 296313 171442 in a north easterly direction, to the village of Sigingstone at grid 297219 171612. The actual closure is at 'Tree Dell' for a distance of approximately 230m. in a south westerly direction.

Reason To allow for essential electrical improvement works to be carried out

Duration From 8.30am on Monday 29 October 2012 for a period of 18 months. However, it is anticipated that works will be completed by 5pm on Saturday 17 November 2012.

Alt. Route Diversions for south west bound traffic during the above closure will be signed from the point of closure in Sigingstone village, in a northerly direction from Signinstone Village to the junction at grid 297173 172435 adjacent to Moorshead Farm, then turning left and proceeding in a north westerly direction to junction where this road meets the B4270 Llantwit Major Road, then proceeding in a southerly direction along the B4270 to the western point of the closure, and visa-versa.

Signing: Appropriate temporary signing will indicate the alternative route.

NB: Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times.

Dated this 18th day of October 2012.

M. E. Punter,
Director of Visible Services & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

GORCHYMYN (CAU FFORDD DROS DRO) (TREE DELL, FFORDD DDIENW, TRESIGIN) CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG 2012

Bydd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, gan arfer ei bwerau o dan Adran 14(1)(b) Deddf Rheoli Traffig 1984 (ddiwygiedig), a phob p?er galluogi arall, yn gwneud Gorchymyn ymhen o leiaf saith niwrnod ar ôl dyddiad yr Hysbysiad hwn a fydd yn cael yr effaith gyffredinol a ddisgrifir yn yr atodlenni isod:-

ATODLEN 1

Ni fydd neb yn gyrru nac yn caniatáu i neb arall yrru modur yn y lleoliad a nodwyd yn Atodlen 2 isod.

ATODLEN 2

Lleoliad Y ffordd ddienw rhwng Ffordd Llanilltud Fawr ar gyfeirnod grid 296313 171442 a phentref Tresigin ar gyfeirnod grid 297219 171612, gan deithio i gyfeiriad y gogledd dwyrain. Caeir y ffordd rhwng 'Tree Dell' a man sydd ryw 230 medr ymhellach i gyfeiriad y de orllewin.

Rheswm Gwneud gwaith hanfodol er mwyn gwella'r system drydanol.

Cyfnod O 8.30am ar ddydd Llun 29 Hydref 2012 ymlaen am gyfnod o 18 mis. Serch hynny, rhagwelwn y daw'r gwaith i ben erbyn 5pm ar ddydd Sadwrn 17 Tachwedd 2012.

Llwybr arall Bydd traffig sy'n teithio i gyfeiriad y de orllewin yn cael ei ddargyfeirio o'r lle y mae'r ffordd wedi'i chau yn Nhresigin, i'r gogledd, at y gyffordd ar gyfeirnod grid 297173 172435, wrth ymyl fferm Moorshead. Bydd yn troi i'r chwith yn y fan honno, ac yn symud ymlaen i'r gogledd orllewin nes cyrraedd y gyffordd â Ffordd Llanilltud Fawr B4270, ac i'r de wedyn ar hyd yr heol honno (B4270), nes cyrraedd pen gorllewinol y darn o ffordd sydd wedi cau. Dilynir yr un llwybr o chwith wrth ddod o'r cyfeiriad arall.

Arwyddion: Bydd arwyddion priodol dros dro'n dangos y ffordd arall.

D.S.: Bydd mynediad i gerddwyr ar hyd yr amser.

Dyddiedig 18 Hydref 2012.

M. E. Punter,
Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Gweladwy a Thai,
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Canolfan yr Alpau, Gwenfô. CF5 6AA.

Whatever else you should be doing this weekend don't miss our Big Approved Used Car Event at Toyota World Bridgend.

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SOMERSET ROAD WEST, BARRY
Bay fronted. Sea views from rear. Semi detached dwelling. Well presented. Three bedrooms, living room, dining room, kitchen, utility room, basement room:- 2 rooms, balcony from dining room, sun terrace, garage.
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NEW

GLENBROOK DRIVE, BARRY
Modern mid linked, built in 1980's. Well presented, through living, fitted kitchen, conservatory, driveway and additional designated parking to rear.
£109,950

NEW

HEOL BROADLANDS, BARRY
Corner positioned, three bedrooms, modern detached, living room, kitchen/diner, enclosed garden. Side access - garage.
£174,950

NEW

HEOL Y PORTHCLADD, BARRY
Three bedroomed town house. Well presented. wc/cloak, kitchen/diner, enclosed garden. master en suite, garage/driveway.
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SEAPOINT, BARRY
In need of some modernisation. 2 bedroomed elevated ground floor apartment. Through living room, extensive sea views over the Knap. Parking in block on first come basis. Completely on the flat - no steps. No chain.
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Notices

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE UNDER THE GAMBLING ACT 2005

Notice is hereby given that Ladbrokes Betting & Gaming Ltd at the following address: Imperial House, Imperial Drive, Rumney, Cardiff, Wales, NP2 7SW is applying for a Betting Office premises licence under section 159 of the Gambling Act 2005. The application relates to the following premises: Ladbrokes, Unit 3, The Precinct, Boverton Road, Llantwit Major, CF61 1XA. The application has been made to Vale of Glamorgan Council. Information about the application is available from the licensing authority including the arrangements for viewing the details of the application. Any of the following persons may make representations in writing to the licensing authority about the application: A person who lives sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the authorised activities. A person who has business interests that might be affected by the authorised activities. A person who represents someone in any of the above two categories. Any representations must be made by the following date: 01/11/2012.

It is an offence under section 342 of the Gambling Act 2005 if a person, without reasonable excuse, gives to a licensing authority for a purpose connected with that Act information which is false or misleading.

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Application by C.V. and covering letter to Theresa Godwin, Wyndham House Dental Practice, Boverton Road, Llantwit Major CF61 1XZ or at mail@wyndhamhousedentalpractice.com.
Closing date for applications is 29th October 2012.

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to keep 4 goods vehicles at the operating centre at
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Owners or occupiers of land, (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at **Hillcrest House, 386 Harehill Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF** stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice.
A guide to making representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

Family Notices

Avril Card
Robert, Elaine and family would like to thank all family, friends and neighbours for their support during this sad time of Avril's passing on September 19, 2012. Thanks also to the carers from the Vale Care Company, District Nurses and Eryl Surgery.

Megan George
Megan's family would like to thank everyone for their cards, messages of sympathy and all who attended her Funeral Service, we were quite overwhelmed by the many who attended, thank you.
We would also like to thank the Reverend David Brunning for a lovely service and all who donated to the Alzheimers Disease Society, thank you.

THOMAS Joyce
Bert, Lana and Patricia thank everyone for their messages, cards and flowers and for joining us at the crematorium for the Funeral Service.
Thanks to Reverend David Boult for conducting a service befitting Joyce's personality. Thanks to Thomas Brothers for the professional manner in which the funeral arrangements were carried out.

BISHOP Reg (Errol)
Passed away suddenly at Exeter Hospital on 11th October 2012. Dearly beloved husband of Christine, will be missed by all his family and friends.
Funeral Service will be held at AG Adams & Sons, Barry on Friday, 26th October 2012 at 1pm, followed by cremation at The Vale of Glamorgan Crematorium at 2.15pm.

EVANS Anthony George (Tony)
Suddenly in Ipswich, Tony of Llantwit Major. Dearly loved father of Michael and Beverley, and a loving grandfather to Ieuan, Kieran and Rhys. Tony was the son of the late Jack and Rachel Evans and will be sadly missed by his family and friends and fiancee Dee.
Resting at W.A. Brown & Son, College St, Llantwit Major until the funeral service on Friday 26th October in Bethel Baptist Church at 2pm followed by interment at Boverton Cemetery.

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Birthdays

Happy Birthday

to the beautiful twins on 17th October
Brittany & Kaitlin Sims
Lots of Love from Leigh, your family and friends
x x x

Family Notices

REGAN Terence David (Terry)
Peacefully after a short illness at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend on 13th October, Terry aged 80 years of Llantwit Major. Dearly loved husband of Maria (nee Kelleher), loving father of Sue and Carol, father-in-law to John and Geoff and grandfather to Naomi, Richard, Huw and Laura.
Resting at W.A. Brown Llantwit Major. Funeral on Monday 22nd October in Our Lady & St. Illtyd's R.C. Church at 1.45pm followed by cremation at Cardiff & Glamorgan Memorial Park Crematorium, Barry. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu, if desired, may be sent to L.A.T.C.H. or British Heart Foundation c/o the Funeral Director (cheques only).

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New Civic is more fashionable than its rivals

MOTORING with TIM SAUNDERS

OVER the past few years, car manufacturers have tried to re-invent the handbrake.

Step inside a Rolls Royce, Bentley, Jaguar, Range Rover or Renault and you'll find that it has been replaced by a simple switch.

This is all very well if the vehicle is automatic, as these have a helpful anti-roll feature. The difficulty is when they're manual – they should all have anti-roll but it doesn't always seem effective, requiring nifty foot work of the clutch and accelerator. Hence, I still prefer the traditional handbrake that can be found in Skodas and Hondas.

Even the brand new 2012 Civic has a proper handbrake, as you can see by watching the video at *testdrives.biz*.

The Japanese manufacturer realises that it gives more control to the driver. In the latest Civic, it resides closer to the front passenger than the driver but nevertheless it's in a good position – far better than the Land Rover Defender I tested recently.

The ninth generation Civic, launched in February, stays true to its predecessor with more accentuated rear lights that protrude from the bodywork and an eye-catching black front grille. But the cool triangular exhausts have sadly disappeared.

As ever, this Civic is aimed at those considering the bland Volkswagen Golf or Ford Focus. Compared to those two, it definitely stands out from the crowd.

Its five-door design retains that essence of sportiness more akin to a three-door by cleverly concealing the rear door handles in the same way as the old Alfa Romeo 156.

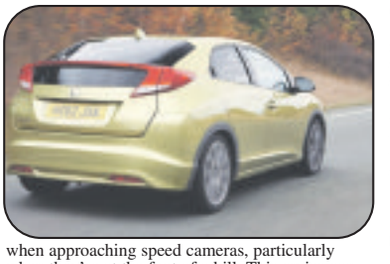
The aerodynamic design sees a bar across the rear windscreen, which impedes vision somewhat and calls for careful reversing.

Inside, it is spacious with a particularly good sized boot.

The 1.8-litre petrol engine is fairly responsive to drive as well, with good low-down torque, although when worked hard it can be a little raucous.

It took me a while to discover how to operate the cruise control and speed limiter buttons, which are on the right of the steering wheel. They are engaged by pressing the 'Main' button, which to me is not logical.

However, this system is reliable to within a few mph of the set speed, requiring extra concentration



when approaching speed cameras, particularly when they're at the foot of a hill. This cruise control, which can be used at speeds as low as 20mph, works best when the desired speed has been reached. On a flat road it happily maintains progress.

Don't, whatever you do, though, use cruise instead of the accelerator, as progress can be sloth-like. Its six-speed manual box is generally decisive. To ensure greater efficiency, there is 'eco' mode and a reliable automatic engine stop/start, both of which help this vehicle cover 500 miles on its 50-litre tank.

Parkers, the car experts, say: "*One of the Civic's strong points is practicality. The boot is far bigger than its competitors' and there's loads of room inside, thanks to what Honda calls 'Magic Seats'.*

"The Civic has been awarded a five-star EuroNCAP rating thanks to its plethora of safety equipment, including adaptive cruise control and collision mitigation – which applies the brakes if it thinks you're about to crash."

While it is disappointing that the road tax on this efficient British-built vehicle is so high, it is the more fashionable alternative to the VW Golf or Ford Focus.

Honda Civic 1.8-litre i-VTEC five-door, 2012 onwards;

New price range: £16,955 - £28,750.
Economy: 48mpg.
0-60mph: 8.8 secs.
Top speed: 134mph.
Road tax: £130 a year.
Watch the video at *www.testdrives.biz.*

RISING PHOENIX STUDENTS PERFORM WELL AT GRADING

Back row (left to right): Rebecca Barnett, Lewis Davies, Bethany Riley, Robert Boyt, Rhian Jones, Adam Hazelwood. Middle row (left to right): Bethan Jones, Thomas Jones, Calum Thomas, Isobel Harris, Morgan Evans, Catrin Smith, Isobelle Britten. Front row (left to right): Alfie Jones, Callum Hepburn, Dafydd Smith, Jaimé Lou Declaire, Zak Baker.

RISING Phoenix Taekwon-Do students recently undertook a grading in the presence of examiner, Master Jeff Copp VII Degree Black Belt.

The grading is a demonstration of the students' skills in Taekwon-do, comprising fitness, pad work, sparring, patterns, self-defence and weapons.

Students are also required to have knowledge about the history of the martial art and must learn Korean terminology, and were also tested on this as part of their grading.

It was a tribute to their hard work and dedication that all students passed their gradings and were awarded with their new belts and certificates.

Three of the club's students – Rhian Jones, Bethan Jones and Thomas Jones have been training with the club since it opened in Barry just over five years ago, (aged five, six and eight) and they are taking their black belt gradings at the beginning of November in a two-day grading, and the club wishes them every success.

The club instructors, Paul and Tammy Nurse, will also be taking their 3rd Degree Black Belt gradings at the same time, and Emily Gillingham will be taking her 2nd Degree Black Belt.

Rising Phoenix Taekwon-do Club train twice a week – at Highlight Park Community Hall on a Tuesday between 6pm and 7.30pm and at The Hub, Barry YMCA, on a Thursday between 5.30pm and 7pm.

The club welcomes adults and children aged six upwards.

For further information, telephone 07971 055247 or e-mail admin@risingphoenix.org.uk

AN

Under-16 girls record away win at Caerphilly

VALE girls under-16s travelled to play Caerphilly Ladies on a wet miserable afternoon, but the game was played in a good spirit.

Vale attacked from the start, putting Caerphilly under early pressure, and Emily Gillard was on hand to score after only three minutes.

Caerphilly had a spell of pressure, but Georgia Atkinson made a good run down the left wing and crossed the ball for Emily Gillard to score her second after 10 minutes.

The game was fairly even until Chloe Jones, who was having a fine game, scored the third with a superb shot from 10 yards. The second half started in very heavy rain and Caerphilly were much improved, but the Vale defence stood firm, with Niamh Teague outstanding.

Caerphilly did score after 43 minutes but then the Vale girls took control and Chloe Jones hit another fine shot from 30 yards which gave the goalkeeper no chance.

Vale girls were now well on top and after several attacks came to nothing, Shelby Richards broke away and scored the fifth goal with a fine shot.

The next 10 minutes were fairly even and Caerphilly had several attempts but the Vale defence stood firm. After 65 minutes, a good move by Georgia Atkinson and the superb Chloe Jones saw another long-range shot from 30 yards by Emily Hill sail past a helpless Caerphilly keeper.

The two players to stand out in this excellent performance were Chloe Jones in attack and Niamh Teague, who had one her best games for the club.

Other club results:
Under-12s – Vale Wanderers 0 Vale Athletic 1, Cardiff University 1 Vale Wanderers 4, Cardiff University 2 Vale Athletic 4.
Under-14 South Wales Cup – Troedyrhiw 7 Vale Girls 4.

CT

Vale Reds shine in tournament

THE Vale Reds attended their first pan-disability tournament of the season at Newport recently, and entered two teams in the over-16 championship and one in the under-16 league.

They were in a league system against other disability teams from Newport, Merthyr, Cardiff and Caerphilly.

One of the over-16 teams did not lose a game and came top of their group, while the second over-16 team, and the under-16 team, both had mixed fortunes and came away with a couple of wins each.

Everyone came away from the tournament with smiles and could hold their heads up high, as all the hard work they had done in training was paying off.

The club has now moved to a new training facility at Ysgol Gyfan Bro Morgannwg, Colcot Road, Barry (by Barry Hospital).

Training is from 7pm to 9pm on Wednesday nights.

We are currently looking for new players to join the team from over-12 and above. Anyone interested in joining the club should telephone Neil or Pat on 01446 701348

NL

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Welsh stars ease pressure on Coleman with much-needed win as...

DARK CLOUDS TEMPORARILY CLEAR FOLLOWING SCOTLAND FIGHTBACK

by LEIGH GRUFFYDD SANDERS

WITH 10 minutes remaining last Friday night at Cardiff City Stadium, things were looking very glum for Wales manager Chris Coleman.

Then, Cardiff-born star and, many would argue, Wales' greatest ever product (see the poll on The GEM website), Gareth Bale took the game by the scruff of the neck and booted Wales' 2014 World Cup qualifying campaign in to life.

After winning a penalty for a trip by Shaun Maloney (it was soft, but Wales should already have had a spot-kick when Craig Davies was wrestled to the ground), Bale dusted himself down to send Alan McGregor the wrong way.

With just seconds remaining on the clock, the Tottenham winger sped off at top speed for the umpteenth time on the night and hit a swerving, dipping drive past the outstretched McGregor and in to the top corner.

The red half of the stadium exploded.

Suddenly, Wales were fourth in the table, four points off a qualification slot, and Chris Coleman wasn't so much of a hate figure.

The criticism hurled at Coleman has been slightly harsh. The players have visibly been hurting from the death of friend and manager Gary Speed last November, and it has taken them a while to overcome that loss.

Wales outplayed their also-much-maligned Celtic friends in a rain-sodden capital and should already have been ahead when Bale struck.

Steve Morrison somehow headed a Bale centre wide moments before his namesake James put the visitors ahead, and former skipper Aaron Ramsey wasted the best chance of the night having run from halfway with the ball and firing wide instead of squaring to a flabbergasted Bale.

Yes, Scotland had a second disallowed, and although the ball didn't go out for a goal-kick before Steven Fletcher headed home, Charlie Adam was in an offside position when he received the ball to cross.

In the end the dragon awoke, thanks mainly to Bale's refusal to accept defeat. The 23-year-old continues to show he is one of the best players in the world currently.

While the performance was not perfect, the creativity was much greater than recent showings. The midfield worked better, although the unwillingness to win a 50/50 challenge was worrying, while the defence handled the returning Fletchers, Darren and Steven, better as the night went on. Ben Davies certainly impressed in his debut.

Unfortunately, it was a return to recent normality in Osijek as Wales were outclassed in a 2-0 defeat to Croatia on a very boggy pitch.

Mario Mandzukic closed down Lewis Price's attempted clearance following a poor Ashley Williams backpass before former Arsenal striker Eduardo pounced on a rebound for 2-0.

Had it not been for Price and Williams, it could have easily been six again, with Croatia also wasteful with their chances and a few comical goalmouth scrambles were thrown in for good measure.

Bale again was the star for Wales, and twice ran most of the pitch, the second bringing a good save from Stipe Petiklosa.

Andy King's header saved on the line was the only other bright moment for Wales on a stale evening in the Balkans.

Cowbridge RFC go down in Wattstown

COWBRIDGE travelled away to joint leaders Wattstown and in a hard battle lost by 20 points to eight.

The programme reminded readers that the three previous encounters had gone Wattstown's way, perhaps something to bear in mind when Wattstown visit us.

Cowbridge were on the scoreboard within three minutes of the start with a well-struck penalty by outside half Carwyn Morgan. Cowbridge weathered pressure until the mid point when a well-worked move from a lineout saw their speedy No7 cross for a converted try.

After 25 minutes prop Alun John had to retire with a knee injury, and Dai Popham came on for his first game of the season and made an immediate impact with his presence in the scrum and trademark tackling.

Wattstown increased their lead with a penalty and then a try by driving up the right wing. However, there appeared to be a clear knock on not given.

A Wattstown move brought their outside half on an inside channel but he was well tackled by full back Richie Howson. Wattstown recycled the ball but dropped it, allowing hooker Jeffers to kick on 60 metres out. Wing Liam Rowland sped past, regathered the ball and touched down for an unconverted try.

Just before half-time a nasty cut forced Dai Breed from the pitch. Now there were to be uncontested scrums, much to Wattstown's annoyance; Lennie Tudor came on as replacement.

Cowbridge had another penalty chance early on in the second half but that and another one after 20 minutes were just short.

A great run up the left wing by centre Elia Pellegrotti and inside to the supporting Matt Pound playing scrum half nearly broke the defence. Then, 12 minutes in Wattstown scored again, but this time there seemed to be at least one forward pass before their second row crossed for an unconverted try.

At the mid point flanker Mat Logsden made way for Rhys Jones. The last change saw Kyle Jones on for Matt Wright. Cowbrige defended manfully with some great tackles going in from Rhys Jones, Pound and Popham to shut Wattstwon out.

Right at the death Luke Boys, who had given his all, was yellow carded for bringing down a maul. Final score: 20-8.

There would be little argument that Wattstown were the better team but inaccuracies with passing and some kicks had prevented Cowbridge being in the mix at the end.

There were several bright spots with Dai Pearson giving a great performance at No8, consistently getting over the gain line and crucially making the ball available.

It was great to Dai Popham back in action.

Mat Logsden continues to improve and Matt Pound was a constant threat. The team tackled and harried the oppositon to the end. Hats off to Alun John and Dai Breed for shoring up the front row where we have a number of injuries.

This Saturday we take on Penygraig at home, kick off 2.30pm. On October 27 we are again at home to Bryncethin in the Swalec Bowl. All support welcome.

The youth were involved in a ding-dong battle away at Rhiwbina.

Cowbridge let Rhiwbina get way from them in the opening 15 minutes as Rhiwbina scored three tries. But the team rallied and Lloyd Stock opened their account with a fine try.

The second half was all Cowbridge as centres Harry Thomas and George Francis crossed the whitewash as did hooker Sam Wood.

Morgan Luke added a conversion. Rhiwbina scored in the final minutes to secure the win by 27-22.

It was agreed that Sam Wood, George Francis and Freddy Thomas had all played very well. The team next play Taffs Well.

RV/RK

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Street Soccer roadshow

Hundreds of children took part in the Street Soccer Festival, with each participant receiving a medal to show they were carrying on the Olympic spirit following the Games in London.

HUNDREDS of pupils at Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg (Cowbridge) recently took part in a Street Soccer Festival.

The roadshows, organised by Peter Griffiths of PG10 Coaching and International Street Soccer, were also held in Cardiff, the Vale, RCT and Swansea as part of the legacy campaign.

The festivals featured FIFA street freestylers and coaches from across the world, the furthest as far as San Diego, USA.

PG10 also provided opportunities for young people to watch the Wales national football team by purchasing tickets as part of the FAW Kick Back Scheme. All participants received a medal and a T-shirt.

To host a Street Soccer Festival contact PG10 Coaching on 07955 270870, email: info@pg10coaching.co.uk, or visit: www.pg10coaching.co.uk.

Peter Griffiths is running the Cardiff Half Marathon on October 14 for Teenage Cancer Trust. If readers wish to support him, contact: http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/PeterGriffiths10.

DARTS LEAGUE ROUND-UP

ON Tuesday, October 9 there was a break from the league schedule with most pubs entering teams into the fours, a knockout competition involving teams of four players.

There were four venues, all of which had three competing teams, the winners going into the semi-final.

Both boards at the Edmondes Arms were in use, and on board one a team from Llanharry progressed defeating one of the Edmondes 'A' teams and the Old Post Ladies.

Meanwhile on board two a team from the Farmers Arms made a strong showing, beating the other Llanharry team only to be narrowly defeated by the Carne Arms team.

There was no stopping the other Farmers Arms team, who at the Llanharry Working Men's Club beat an Edmondes 'B' team and the other Edmondes 'A' team.

While at the Carne Arms, the Hare and Hounds team, the defending champions, were knocked out by the other Edmondes 'B' team, the other losing team being from the Cross Inn.

The semi-final line up is Llanharry v the Carne Arms and the Farmers Arms v Edmondes 'B'. These matches, including the final, will be played on Tuesday, December 18.

Coming up on Tuesday October 23 is another knockout competition, the men's doubles. The venues are the Hare and Hounds, Cross Inn, Farmers Arms and the Edmondes Arms.

All matches start at 8.30pm and spectators are always welcome.

For further information please e-mail Paul at: cowbridgedarts@googlemail.com. Up-to-date information can be found on the website: www.darts.apsn.co.uk.

RM

GLAMORGAN GEM SPORTS EXTRA

Bronze joy for local riders

Left to right: Sam Owen, Grace Dalton, Lauren Boyce, Rebecca Sedcole and Sophia Harpin.

VALE riders Sophia Harpin and Grace Dalton, with their ponies Sky and Rolo, are part of the Welsh under-14 Mounted Games Association team.

They have returned home sporting bronze medals from this year's European Mounted Games Championships, hosted by Italy in August 2012.

On the weekend of May 5/6 all eligible riders were observed by the team trainer and selectors. The trials were to determine selection for the Welsh team.

Wales has an outstanding reputation throughout the world for having world class games riders so selection for the team is an exceptional achievement.

The European Championships were superbly managed by the Horsebridge Club, Turin, in association with the Italian Equestrian Federation. This prestigious event was attended by 13 European countries.

Despite Sophia Harpin riding only three weeks out of plaster after a broken ankle and the team having to train and compete in the searing heat of up to 46 degrees, they were expertly put through their paces by trainer Wendy Jones and deservedly earned their place on the podium.

Sophia and Grace are also active members of the Southerndown Riding club and Llangeinor Pony Club. They also enjoy the other disciplines such as show jumping, cross country and tetrathlon, but mounted games are what they are most passionate about.

They would like to thank Marion Elliot DC and mounted games trainer Jonathon Thomas of Llangeinor Pony Club for their training and support.

NH

Cadoxton Tae Kwon Do excel at 'Battle of Wales'

Pictured are: Back: Alan Evans, Jamie Halford, Keita Enfield, Morganne Gomez Jones. Emily Halford, Mason Blackley, Thomas Haysham, Lucy Newman, Bradley Halford. Front: Cody Jacobsen, Jensen Rees and Cian Allen.

A SMALL contingent of competitors and spectators from the Cadoxton Schools of Tae Kwon Do travelled the short distance to Aberdare to take part in the Battle of Wales.

The tournament was hosted by Rob Taylor where competitors from all over the principality converged to take part.

Competing for the first time were Alan Evans and Mason Blackley. Alan was in one of the largest categories of the day and came away with second place in point sparring.

While giving a good account of himself, Mason lost to the eventual category winner by just one point.

Ever-improving young Cody Jacobsen took second place in the point sparring, while at the same time on a different area, Cian Allen was on the mat and he came away with third place in continuous sparring.

As usual, Thomas Haysham was competing against bigger opponents of the same age category, just losing out by one point in the dying seconds of the point sparring. Not to be disappointed, he raised his game to take second place in the continuous sparring.

With her superior kicking ability, Keita Enfield fought her way into the final of the women's point sparring, taking the gold and first place.

Jamie Halford showed his strength in the men's point sparring to once again take first place.

Having been taken into extra time three times, Morganne Gomez Jones was the eventual winner in her continuous sparring category. Morganne went on to take second place in the point sparring category.

Unfortunately, Lucy Newman had to pull out of her category due to injury, with Emily Halford just missing out on a podium place.

Taking first place in both is point and continuous sparring categories, Bradley Halford was, without doubt, the star of the day.

YOUNG RUGBY STAR 'PROUD TO BE WELSH'

Rhys with the Pathways to Apprenticeships sport students.

UP-and-coming Cardiff Blues rugby star Rhys Patchell recently visited Cardiff and Vale College for a bilingual question and answer session to encourage young people to learn Welsh.

Rhys went to the college's Colcot Road site in Barry to be interviewed bilingually by two students, Amy Marsh and George Payne.

He talked about his life, career, his pride in being Welsh and in the Welsh language. Rhys also spoke of his passion for Wales and his commitment to encouraging all young people to develop their Welsh language skills.

He later took part in a question and answer session with Pathways to Apprenticeships Sport students. There he answered questions from "What would you do if you didn't play rugby?" (Rhys would be a teacher), to "What went wrong last week?"

The Q&A was filmed for the college's website by digital media student James Huntley and tutor David Poole.

"Rhys answered all questions really clearly and had time for everyone," Cardiff and Vale College bilingual mentor Rhianwen Davies said.

"It was an absolute pleasure to have him with us."

Under-7s in draw

IN pleasant autumn sunshine Cowbridge under-7s played just one match against a small Llanishen squad making their rugby debut.

However, any optimism that this would be a comfortable victory was quickly cast aside with Llanishen opening the scoring.

Cowbridge eventually geared into action with Joe Davies weaving through the defence to score in the corner. Llanishen kept the pressure on but Joe Arentsen found a gap and sprinted for the line to score, and James Collingridge powered through the defence and cut in to score the third Cowbridge try.

Llanishen proved adept in attack as well as defence and Cowbridge unsurprisingly found themselves trailing 3-5 at half time.

The second half started very well for the team when Osian Bruce had a phenomenal burst of speed down the left hand sideline to score straight from the kick-off.

This started a purple patch for Cowbridge with three more unanswered tries and excellent tagging.

A good run from Ben Stephenson allowed Osian to score his second try. Henry Whitehouse picked up the ball after tagging his opponent and sprinted from the halfway line to score, and sustained team pressure allowed Sam Jackson to score in the corner.

Clever substitutions from Llanishen enabled them to get back into the game, but an effective run by Henry enabled Osian to bring up his hat-trick. **Final score: 8-8.**

KD

Barry RFC ladies fail to avenge earlier league loss

BARRY Ladies travelled to Penallta with realistic belief that they could overturn their earlier league home defeat by the Miner Birds.

The first 10 minutes confirmed this belief as they took the game to Penallta with intelligent line kicking from No10 Rees and resolute defence.

This was typified by No3 Richards making a last ditch tackle near the Barry line, knocking the ball forward.

However, on 12 minutes the Bombettes were soon to realise the importance of missed tackles, as with only one came the home side's first try.

This spurred Barry onto their best period of the game, as they drove at the home side. After several home infringements, Barry found themselves encamped in the Penallta 22.

From a tap penalty in front of the posts Boffy surged forward only to be held up just short.

These next phases, where Barry were held up over the line three times, surely contributed to the home side's confidence. From the sidelines, one of the drives looked certain to have seen the ball grounded, but the referee, unsighted, couldn't give the score.

This was an opportunity lost and from a surging run from the Penallta No8, the home side scored again.

This seemed to knock the confidence of the Bombettes, who started to miss first up tackles. Three scores later by the speedy Penallta backs, led to a half-time score of Penallta 27, Barry 0.

Special mention goes to debutant Sarah Evans and Morgan in the powerhouse second row, who bravely battled to hold their own scrum ball.

This resulted in No8 Cole having to stay down in the scrum just to secure possession. Changes were made with Phillips resuming her hooking duties allowing Cahill to move back into the second row, with Morgan taking a rest.

The second half started with the coaches' advice ringing in their ears. A quick Penallta try and conversion effectively killed off any thoughts of a miraculous comeback and Penallta scored converted tries again, almost at will, out wide.

However Barry, to their credit, kept going and following a powerful run from No12 Jones into the Penallta 22, Barry scored a deserved consolation try.

The Barry forwards drove and set up a good attacking position. Quick ball from No9 Bannister saw K Jones power over. This delivered the biggest cheer from the coaches and travelling support.

Kath Jones and Britton came on, with the latter putting in a couple of crunching tackles.

Following another Penallta converted try, the referee curiously called the game early.

AM

CALLING ALL CLUB OFFICIALS!

The GEM want to hear from you with your club's news, match reports and other items of interest. Email us at: *gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk* and let us know what's going on at your club!

CARDIFF AND THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN SCHOOLS TRACK AND FIELD PRESENTATION EVENING

FOR the first time, Cowbridge Comprehensive School hosted the annual Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan Schools' Track and Field Presentation Evening – and the pupils and parents, who were visiting the Aberthin Road site for the first time, were highly impressed with the quality of the new facilities.

This presentation is an opportunity to celebrate the success of individual pupils and school teams in a programme which starts with the SIAB Schools' Indoor under-16 and under-18 Combined Events International at Glasgow (in December 2011), takes in the sportshall programme in the spring term and the domestic track and field programme and School Games 2012 in the summer term before, this year, ending with the Aviva SIAB Schools' under-17 track and field international, hosted by English Schools at Ashford in Kent on July 21.

Helping to distribute the lengthy list of awards were Brett Morse, the GB international discus thrower, who competed at the recent Olympic Games in London, Ryan Spencer-Jones, a Welsh international shot-putter, who is the Welsh Athletics Club network officer for the area, John Penny, the president of Welsh Athletics, and Mrs Kath Elias, the chairman of Welsh Athletics, who is a former member of the PE staff at Llantwit Comprehensive.

Of the top three awards, only one came to a pupil with connections with the Vale. Anax Da Silva, a year-12 student at Cardiff and the Vale College, was awarded the Bob and Min Cypher Trophy, which also included a small bursary.

Anax is a talented sprinter, who has only been in the sport for just more than 12 months, but he represented Welsh Schools twice in 2011 and competed for the Welsh Athletics under-20 team in an international at Leckwith this summer. In his absence, the award was received by his college lecturer, Mrs Andrea Williams.

The other two awards were retained by the 2011 recipients. The Frank Ireland Cup for the outstanding athlete – a trophy presented by former Cardiff and Vale Schools president and Barry and Vale Harriers chairman Frank Ireland – was presented on the night by Brett Morse, who reminded everyone that he had received the trophy on two consecutive years when he was in the sixth form at St Cyres.

He presented the Cup to sixth former Elliot Slade (Bishop of Llandaff), who had set new senior age group championship bests over 800 metres at both the Cardiff and the Vale Schools and the Aviva Welsh Schools National Championships, and who had gained a Welsh senior vest.

Cardiff High School retained the Overall Points trophy, for points gained in the eight championship sections.

A special plaque was awarded to the 24 pupils to mark their international selection, and nine of them were from Vale schools and colleges.

Joining Anax in the Welsh under-20 team was another year-12 student, Matthew Edwards. Because of the limited events at the international, the Barry Comprehensive sixth former competed over 1,500 metres rather than the 2,000 metres steeplechase event, which he won at the Aviva Welsh Schools championships.

Three of the nine Vale athletes were included in the SIAB Schools' indoor combined events international, which was held at the Kelvin Hall in Glasgow last December.

The trio were Matthew Collins (Barry Comprehensive, year-11), who competed in the under-18 section (years-11 and 12) and also represented Welsh Schools in the 400 and 4x400 at the School Games 2012 at the Olympic Stadium (in May) and the Aviva SIAB Schools under-17 international at Ashford, and under-16 team members and Cowbridge pupils George Griffiths (year-10) and Tom Trotman (year-9).

George produced the best ever performance by a Cardiff and the Vale pupil at the Aviva UK Sportshall Finals at Birmingham in April, finishing second in the under-15 all-rounder competition, before representing Welsh Schools at the Sainsbury's School Games 2012 in May. Tom, who also competed in those UK Sportshall Finals, represented Welsh Schools in the high jump event at Ashford.

Two Stanwell year-11 pupils gained international honours. Tom Williams will have been disappointed that injury prevented him from being on top form at those Aviva Welsh Schools national championships in early July. He had already competed at the School Games 2012 but missed out on selection for the SIAB match in late July.

His school-mate, Matteo Holmes, missed out on the one-per-event selection at the School Games but was included in both the hammer and javelin for the two-per-event SIAB international. Both pupils will look to improve next summer in the sixth form.

Only two girls – both in year-10 – gained international honours.

Ellie Atkinson (Llantwit) rolled her excellent form over the country into her track performances over 1,500 metres, winning the Aviva Welsh Schools' middle title and claiming a bronze medal at the SIAB international at Ashford. Joining her in that SIAB team was Annabel Curle, who made significant progress in the high jump, the event in which she gained her international vest, the hurdles and in the combined events.

Congratulations to all the Vale pupils who received an award! Now look to improve in the next 12 months.

As an incentive to pupils in years 8 to 13, we can tell them that the Welsh Schools Nationals will be held at Cardiff International Sports Stadium on July 6, 2013.

At the end of the presentations to pupils, there was a special presentation to a member of staff. Mr Dai Williams, who recently retired as Head of PE at Ysgol Gyfun Glantaf, followed in the footsteps of Hugh Williams and Glan Williams, both stalwarts of the Cowbridge PE department, by having his contribution to athletics in Wales recognised when John Penny presented him with a Welsh Athletics Meritorious Award.

At the end of a successful evening, Rob Glaves (St Cyres), the Cardiff and the Vale Schools' Chairman, thanked a number of groups and individuals including the head-teacher, governing body and PE department at Cowbridge.

TEAM AWARDS – CHAMPIONSHIPS: The Capitol Shopping Centre Trophies: Senior (Under-20) held at Leckwith on Tuesday, May 1, Senior Girls: Cowbridge 219; Middle (Under 17) – held at Leckwith on Wednesday, May 3; Middle Girls: Cowbridge 285; Year-7 (Under-13), held at Jenner Park on Tuesday, June 28, Year-7 Boys: Bro Morgannwg 154.

AWARDS TO INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS – 95 pupils, 37 from the Vale: SENIOR BOYS – 12: Matthew Edwards Barry) 1500 4:06.26; James Glaves (Bro Morgannwg) 110H 20.17 (2.0); Bradley Cole (Cardiff and Vale College) HT, JT 50.52. 50.26; Joe Green (St Cyres) Triple jump 12.39.

SENIOR GIRLS – 11: Bethany Hawkins (Bro Morgannwg) Triple Jump 9.09; Ellie Carter (Bryn Hafren) Shot 6.95; Coryn Sexton (Cowbridge) Javelin 20.69; Fiona Bray (Cowbridge) 3000 11:44.07; Imogen Harrison (Cowbridge) Long Jump 3.90; Katie Wynn (Cowbridge) 800 3:28.70; Nikita John (Cowbridge) 1500, DT 5:37.30, 18.92; Rebecca Thomas (Cowbridge) HJ 1.30.

MIDDLE BOYS – 14: Matthew Collins (Barry) 400 52.52; Dafydd George (Bro Morgannwg) 3000 9:58.64; George Connelly (Bro Morgannwg) Pole Vault 3.10; George Griffiths (Cowbridge) LJ, TJ 6.01, 12.03; Joe Gaughan (Cowbridge) Shot 12.17; Matteo Holmes (Stanwell) DT, HT 34.56, 43.30; Tom Williams (Stanwell) 100, 200 11.39(1.3), 23.39 (1.9).

MIDDLE GIRLS – 13: Tillie Carter (Bryn Hafren) 2000 Walk 12:58.49 CBP; Annabel Curle (Cowbridge) 80H, HJ 13.21, 1.55; Jessica Jaques (Cowbridge) 3000 11.42.98; Ellie Atkinson (Llantwit Major) 1500 4:57.82; Emily Gillard (St Richard Gwyn) DT, JT 18.73, 30.29.

JUNIOR BOYS – 15: Alex Love (Cowbridge) 800 2:17.44; Kristian Jones (Cowbridge) 80H 12.19 (-2.1); Tom Trotman (Cowbridge) High Jump 1.80; Alex Hill (Llantwit Major) Long Jump 5.04; Julian Boswell (Llantwit Major) Shot 10.22; Richard Dangerfield (Llantwit Major) Javelin 43.94.

JUNIOR GIRLS – 12: Megan Davies (Bro Morgannwg) Pole Vault 1.70; Faye Gibbon (Bryn Hafren) 75H 13.70(-1.2); Seren Allin (Cowbridge) 800 2:27.99; Sarah Rogers (St Richard Gwyn) SP, HT 8.04, 19.19.

YEAR 7 BOYS – 9: Harry Carter (Barry) High Jump 1.45; Joe Williams (Bro Morgannwg) Long Jump 4.63; Javen Horn-Jones (Llantwit Major) DT, JT 21.92, 29.50.

AWARDS TO 2012 SPORTSHALL WINNERS: Under-13 BOYS (6) held at Whitchurch Lower on 11/01/12: Dan Bunney (Cowbridge) S Long Jump 2.29.

UNDER-13 GIRLS (9) held at Whitchurch Lower on 18/01/2012: Faye Gibbon (Bryn Hafren) High Jump 1.30; Bridget Waters (Cowbridge) Speed Bounce 78; Niamh Galton (Cowbridge) S Long Jump 2.18; Annabel Birch-Hurst (Stanwell) 6 Laps 80.1; Clare Halligan (Stanwell) 2 Laps 22.9; Stephanie Knight (Stanwell) 4 Laps 52.6.

UNDER-15 BOYS (4) held at YG Glantaf on 08/02/2012: Ellis Rosser (Cowbridge) Speed Bounce 76; George Griffiths (Cowbridge) 2 Laps, SLJ, SP, Overall Pts 21.5, 2.65, 11.75, 300.

UNDER-15 GIRLS (4) held at YG Glantaf on01/02/2012: Annabel Curle (Cowbridge) 4 Laps 53.3; Izzy Eddy Williams (Cowbridge) Speed Bounce 79; Lili Evans (Cowbridge) Vertical Jump 53.

Certificates to athletes who competed at the Welsh Sportshall Finals, at Cwmbran Stadium, Sunday, March 4: UNDER 13 Boys – Team Third - 644 – (13): Dan Bunney (Cowbridge) Injured after 4x1 relay; Harrison Stevens (Cowbridge) Vertical Jump 48; Will Gale (Stanwell) Standing Triple Jump 6.20; Will Marsh (Stanwell) 6 Laps, Speed B 1:38.7, 74; Tom Collins (Stanwell) Shot (ns) 9.46.

UNDER-13 Girls – Team third – 566 – (13); Faye Gibbon (Bryn Hafren) High Jump 1.25; Bridget Walters (Cowbridge) Speed Bounce 75; Gabby Smith (Cowbridge) 4 Laps, S Triple J 70.1, 5.67; Niamh Galton (Cowbridge) S Long Jump 2.20; Annabel Birch-Hurst (Stanwell) 6 Laps, High Jump 1:34.9, 1.20.

UNDER-15 Boys – Team first – 585 – (6): George Griffiths (Cowbridge) 2L, SLJ, SP, Overall Pts 24.0, 2.81, 12.35, 300.

UNDER-15 Girls – Team second – 624 – (7): Annabel Curle (Cowbridge) 4L, SLJ, SP 59.9, 2.18, 8.45; Izzy Eddy-Williams (Cowbridge) 4L, SLJ, SB 60.0, 2.20, 85; Lili Evans (Cowbridge) 2L, VJ, SB 27.9, 55, 74; Sally Gambling (Cowbridge) 4L, VJ, SB 62.6, 40, 74; Brooke Langton Cryer (ns) (Cowbridge) 2L, SLJ, SP 27.8, 2.10, 6.83.

Certificates to athletes who competed at the UK Sportshall Finals, at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, Saturday, April 21: UNDER-15 Boys – Team third – 1114 – (6): George Griffiths (Cowbridge) 2L, SLJ, SP 21.2, 2.88, 14.22; Tom Trotman (Cowbridge) 4L, STJ, SP 47.0, 7.94, 11.35.

AWARD OF TRACK AND FIELD COLOURS to athletes who competed at the Welsh Schools' Championships (a) Combined Events Championships at Newport on June 30: Middle Boys – Under-17 – (100H, HJ, LJ, SP, 800) – 7; first - 5043; Ieuan Orton (Bro Morgannwg) 4 2466; Harri Williams (Bro Morgannwg) 2 2577; Jacob Briscombe (Bro Morgannwg) 6 2148.

Middle Girls – Under-17 – (HJ, LJ, 80H, SP, 0800) – 6; first - 5459; Annabel Curle (Cowbridge) 2 2820; Jessica Morgan (Bro Morgannwg) 9 1845; Lili Evans (Cowbridge) 10 1754.

Junior Boys – Under-15 – (80H, SP, HJ, LJ, 800) – 13; first - 5186; Thomas Trotman (Cowbridge) 1 2608; Aled George (Bro Morgannwg) 30 1407; Dafydd Smith (Bro Morgannwg) 25 1549; Deri Leitch (Bro Morgannwg) 33 1212; Jack Elias-Williams (Bro Morgannwg) 31 1365;

Junior Girls – Under-15 - (LJ, 75H, SP, HJ, 800) – 5; fifth - 3986; Faye Gibbon (Bryn Hafren) 8 2042; Kelsea Peterson (Bro Morgannwg) 22 963; Nia Fenn (Bro Morgannwg) 23 911; Brooke Langton-Cryer (Cowbridge) 11 1944; Niamh Galton (Cowbridge) 20 1446; (b).

National Championships at Brecon on July 2: Senior Boys – st - 111: Matthew Edwards (Barry Comp) 3000 1 9:14.58; Matthew Edwards (Barry Comp) 2000Sc 1 6:36.28; Tom Perry (Bro Morgannwg) Discus 5 28.76; Tom Perry (Bro Morgannwg) Hammer 4 23.48; Anax Da Silva (Cardiff and Vale College) 100 3 11.50; Anax Da Silva (Cardiff and Vale College) 200 1 22.87; Anax Da Silva (Cardiff and Vale College) 200 1 22.76; Bradley Cole (Cardiff and Vale College) Discus 4 35.40; Bradley Cole (Cardiff and Vale College) Hammer 1 50.38; Bradley Cole (Cardiff and Vale College) Javelin 2 56.85; Sam Roberts (Cowbridge) Javelin 6 41.65; Duke Durham (St Cyres) 400 8 64.54; Duke Durham (St Cyres) 110H 5 24.23; Joe Greene (St Cyres) Triple J 2 11.99/3.0; Rory Heslop (St David`s College) 2000Sc 4 7:17.23.

Senior Girls – sixth – 47: Bethany Hawkins (Bro Morgannwg) Triple J 4 8.72/5.3; Megan Thomas (Bro Morgannwg) Triple J 5 8.26/2.3; Zoe Stevens (Bro Morgannwg) Long J 6 3.24/3.5; Chloe Phillips (Cardiff and Vale College) Shot 4 7.15 Chloe Phillips (Cardiff a nd Vale College) Hammer 5 17.62; Chloe Phillips (Cardiff and Vale College) Javelin 6 20.16.

Middle Boys – first - 116: Ieuan Orton (Bro Morgannwg) High Jump 2 1.75; Matthew Collins (Barry Comp) 400 Ht 1 53.91; Matthew Collins (Barry Comp) 400 Fin 1 51.59; Matthew Collins (Barry Comp) 100 Ht 2 11.70/-2.0; Matthew Collins (Barry Comp) 100 Fin 3 11.53/-0.6; Dafydd George (Bro Morgannwg) 3000 4 9:28.44; George Griffiths (Cowbridge) 100 Fin DNS; George Griffiths (Cowbridge) Long Jump 4 5.95; Harry Dowell-Bennett (Cowbridge) Discus 4 31.15; Joe Gaughan (Cowbridge) Shot 6 11.45; Matteo Holmes (Stanwell) Hammer 2 48.07; Matteo Holmes (Stanwell) Javelin 3 46.23; Tom Williams (Stanwell) 200 4 24.12; Cardiff and the Vale 4 x100 2 45.65.

Middle Girls – third - 88: Annabel Curle (Cowbridge) 80H 4 12.95; Annabel Curle (Cowbridge) High Jump 2= 1.55; Erin Hayes (Llantwit Major) 1500 Sc 1 5:49.96; Ellie Atkinson (Llantwit Major) 1500 1 4:38.87; Emily Gillard (St Richard Gwyn) Discus 7 19.67; Emily Gillard (St Richard Gwyn) Javelin 4 30.01; Phoenix Kaged (Stanwell) 4x100 3 51.50; Sophie Boyle (Stanwell) 200 9 31.83.

Junior Boys – second - 89: Sion Jones (Bro Morgannwg) Shot 6 10.27; Sion Jones (Bro Morgannwg) Discus 8 19.70; Alex Love (Cowbridge) 800 8 2:21.41; Tom Trotman (Cowbridge) HJ, 4x100 2 1.70; Alex Hill (Llantwit Major) Long jump 2 5.50/2.3; Richard Dangerfield (Llantwit Major) Javelin 2 44.91.

Junior Girls – fifth – 53.5: Catrin Davies (Bro Morgannwg) Pole Vault 3 2.05; Faye Gibbon (Bryn Hafren) 75H, 4 x 100 3 12.92; Seren Allin (Cowbridge) 800 3 2:27.42; Sarah Rogers (St Richard Gwyn) Shot 8 8.20; Sarah Rogers (St Richard Gwyn) Hammer 5 16.45; Cardiff and the Vale 4x100 4 54.08.

TEAM WINNERS at the Welsh Schools' National Championships at Brecon on 02/07/11: (a) Senior Boys: Captain – Bradley Cole (Cardiff and Vale College): (b) Middle Boys: Captain – Matthew Collins (Barry Comprehensive).

AWARD TO ATHLETES WHO GAINED INTERNATIONAL SELECTION: (a) For Welsh Schools at the SIAB Combined Events International at Glasgow, Scotland – December 3, 2011: Under-18 Boys; Matthew Collins (Barry Comp) 12 3082 second team.

Under-16 Boys: George Griffiths (Cowbridge) 10 2637 third Team; Tom Trotman (Cowbridge) 12 2479 third team (b) For Welsh Schools at the Schools Games 2012 at the Olympic Stadium, London – 9 May, 2012: Under-17 Boys: Matthew Collins (Barry Comp) 400, 4x400 5th – 50.45; George Griffiths (Cowbridge) 4x100 5th – 42.82; Tom Williams (Stanwell) 100, 4x100 5th – 11.16 (0.8).

(d) For Welsh Athletics Under-20 team at the Welsh Athletics International at the Cardiff International Sports Stadium – July 18, 2012.

Under 20 Boys: Anax Da Silva (Cardiff andVale College) 100 6th – 11.35 (-3.1); Matthew Edwards (Barry Comp) 1500 sixth – 4:11.63.

(f) For Welsh Schools at the SIAB Schools' under-17 track and field international at the Julie Rose Stadium, Ashford – July 21, 2012.

Under-17 Boys: Matthew Collins (Barry Comp) 400, 4x400 5th – 50.72; Tom Trotman (Cowbridge) High Jump eighth – 1.75; Matteo Holmes (Stanwell) Hammer eighth – 47.24; Matteo Holmes (Stanwell) Javelin fifth – 45.89.

Under-17 Girls: Annabel Curle (Cowbridge) High Jump eighth – 1.58; Ellie Atkinson (Llantwit) 1500 third – 4:32.71.

Sixth form students Fiona Bray (3,000m) and Katie Wynn (800m) received a certificate to mark their victories in the senior championships.

Chloe Phillips (Cardiff and Vale College) received her district colours medal for representing Cardiff and the Vale Schools at the Aviva Welsh School national track and field championships.

Cowbridge won the Middle Girls team section in the Cardiff and the Vale Schools championships, and the cup was presented to year-11 pupil Annabel Curle.

COWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SPORTS REPORT

Pupils excel at the schools' skiing championships

The senior netball team.

Cowbridge boys' skiing team one - Welsh Champions 2012.

The year-7 cross country team.

THE Welsh Schools Skiing Championships 2012 were held at Llangrannog Ski Centre on Sunday, October 7.

The school entered five teams – three boys' and two girls' – into the biggest field this competition has seen since its inception!

On a very autumnal sunny day in Llangrannog, the pupils displayed great skill and speed up against some tough competition.

Competing both as individuals and as part of a team of four, they carried out two runs on a slalom course. The two times for each run were combined to give the individual result and the best three times out of four were combined for each run to give the team result.

ßAll the pupils acquitted themselves well. Ben Thomas (year-10) came third overall in the boys' event with a time of 19.72 seconds. For the non-registered skiers, Ben Jones came second overall with a time of 22.40 seconds, closely followed by Jamie Griffiths in third with a time of 22.50 seconds!

In the age group events, Hannah Taylor gained a third place in the under-18 non-registered girls' category, while Jamie Griffiths gained a third place in the non-registered boys' category.

In the under-16 non-registered boys' category, Cowbridge took a clean sweep with Ben Jones, Nicky Griffiths and Gabe Newham coming in first, second and third respectively. In the under-14 registered boys' category, Harry Hopkins came first while Henry Jones managed a second place finish in the non-registered category.

Overall in the team standings, the girls' team one (Hannah Taylor, Amy Oliver, Caitlin Jones and Hannah Crosby) came away with an excellent third and team two (Maisie Beech, Cerys Bradshaw, Sophie Harpin and Suzy Jones) a commendable sixth. Both qualified for the British National Championships.

In the boys' event, team two (Ben Jones, Henry Jones, John Harvey and Gabriel Newham) came in fourth, also qualifying for the British National Championships, while congratulations go to team one (Jamie Griffiths, Nick Griffiths, Ben Thomas and Harry Hopkins), who are Welsh Champions!

Overall, it was a very successful event for Cowbridge; it was very satisfying to see the pupils competing to such a high level and with such a young team it bodes well for the future as the experience of the pupils grow.

CC

Netball season well under way

THE senior and year-11 netball teams took on Llantwit at home on Wednesday October 3.

The seniors got off to a flying start with Imogen Harrison at GK, Caitlin Allin at GD and Megan McNamee (year-10) at WD pressuring Llantwit's attack, preventing them from using the ball.

Annabel Curle (year-11) at C and Liz Whitehouse at WA linked well in attack to ensure the ball was readily available on the edge of the circle to feed into Mairi Boxall at GA and Nancie Edwards at GS.

Cowbridge moved ahead to lead 13-0 at half-time.

In the second half, Cowbridge had a change around to prevent complacency and to focus on possession.

Despite playing considerably out of position, the girls played exceptionally well as a team and secured a win with a final score of 21-0. Well done to all the girls. Player of the match went to Mairi Boxall.

The year-11 team got off to a steady start, but it was the Llantwit girls that dominated the first half.

Outstanding defence from Olivia Brown at GD and Sarah Lewis at GK ensured the score remained close, 5-4 at half-time.

In the second half, a newly composed Cowbridge team cut out the unforced errors and capitalised on Llantwit's mistakes.

Kim Jerwood year-10 at GS and Hannah Woodward at GA linked excellently in the attacking circle to gain an advantageous shooting position.

Cowbridge excelled in the second half and secured a well-deserved 12-9 win. Well done to all the girls. Players of the match went to Kim Jerwood and Olivia Brown.

The year-9 netball girls travelled to Stanwell on Tuesday October 2, with the 9A team played first.

As a result of traffic, the Stanwell team had had sufficient time to warm up and were ready and raring to go as we arrived.

The game started steadily with some excellent interceptions from Emma at GK and Ffion Vickers at GD to keep Cowbridge level in the game at half-time. Olivia Jones at GA scored both goals.

Cowbridge were slow to start in the second half and made for too many basic errors. Stanwell moved ahead, scoring the first two goals of the second half and, despite being reigning Vale champions, the Cowbridge girls were rattled with erratic and forced play.

The final score was 6-3 to Stanwell and Cowbridge's girl of the game was Ffion Vickers in defence.

The 9B team began their match in a far more controlled manner and quickly took the lead. Excellent linking play between Cerys Bradshaw at C and Annie Lloyd at WA ensured the ball was readily available to the shooters to capitalise on.

Charlotte Adams at GK and Niamh Jenkins at GD worked tirelessly to keep the ball out of Stanwell's attacking circle, ensuring Cowbridge could maintain their lead.

In the second half, Libby Jenkins came on at GA and immediately made an impact by scoring two consecutive goals for Cowbridge off the first two centres.

Bethan Swallow came on at WD and again asserted herself by claiming an interception off Stanwell's first centre pass.

An excellent team performance saw the Cowbridge 9B team secure at 6-1 win. Well done girls! Girl of the match went to Katie Phillips at GS.

The year-8 and 9 netball teams faced St Richard Gwyn at home on Thursday October 4.

Due to the sheer enthusiasm and numbers in training we were able to field year-8A, B and C teams and year-9A, B C and D teams. As a result, the decision was made to give all the Cowbridge girls a chance to represent the school, so we played four 10-minute quarters for each year group and rotated the teams so that each pupil got to play for at least 10 minutes in a competitive match.

The year-9 A's got off to a flying start, winning their match 9-1. The B team narrowly lost 1-2, and the C team came out fighting to secure a 3-2 win. The D team battled hard to unfortunately go down 3-7. This gave Cowbridge a combined overall win of 16-12.

A big well done to all the girls involved. Niamh Jenkins was voted as player of the match.

The year-8s got off to an equally solid start, with 8A winning 6-3. 8B also held out for a 3-2 win, but 8C were unfortunately beaten 0-4.

8A resumed the court for the final quarter of the match and again won 6-0. This secured an overall 15-9 win for Cowbridge. Another big well done to all the girls involved. Player of the match went to Emily Forrest.

The year-9 and 10 netball teams then played at home on Wednesday October 10 against Brynteg.

As Mrs Dickinson and Mrs Jones were involved in cross country the same afternoon, Dr Stacey from the science department kindly offered to supervise the game and Jo Wilkins in year-11 and Imogen Harrison in year-13 helped to coach the girls and umpire the match. A big thank you to all three for giving up their time.

The year-9 team played first and got off to a solid start, leading 3-0 at half time. They maintained their lead in the second half and managed to secure a 4-0 win.

The year-10 girls had a closely-fought battle in the first half, with Brynteg taking the lead to 5-4. In the second half, excellent defence from Yas Evans and Ellie Eddy-Williams kept Cowbridge in the game, but unfortunately Brynteg just had the edge and lead 9-6 at the final whistle. Well done to all the girls who took part.

SD

Big wins in cross country

THE first girls' league cross country match was held at Bryn Hafren School recently.

All three teams performed amazingly well and won all three age groups. Well done!

Year-7: Meriel Clode (fourth); Mali Havell (seventh); Jordan Meek (eighth); Emily Jenkins (17th); Aimee Jones (19th); Rachel Anstey (26th); Izzy Kennedy (36th); Caitlin Adams (56th); Eleanor Thorne (65th).

Year 8 and 9: Seren Allen (first); Cerys Bradshaw (seventh); Genevieve Kirk (eighth); Jemma Viney (14th); Sanant Emyr (20th); Libby Jenkins (23rd); Ella Jones (24th); Lowri Morgan (32nd); Sophie Oddy (33rd); Megan Roberts (48th); Jasmine Emery (49th); Selina Radcliff (55th); Annabel Hegarty (91st); Penny Weir (108th).

Seniors: Nadine James (third); Fiona Bray (eighth); Milly Green (13th); Rebecca Thomas (18th); Ela Emry (20th); Tilly Hall (25th); Miriam Bennett (36th); Alice Tudor (38th); Brooke Langton-Cryer (46th); Sally Gambling (55th).

LJ

Year-9 rugby impress

THE year-9 rugby squad played out a fantastic game of rugby against Bro Morgannwg but unfortunately came up just short and lost the game 52-42.

Playing with a strong wind advantage in the first half, Cowbridge outside half Cai Evans used some quality kicking skills to keep the Bro team pinned back.

Cowbridge took advantage of the territorial domination and built a healthy half-time lead thanks to tries from Ben Terry, Dan Bunny, Cai Evans and Tom Edwards.

Playing into the wind in the second half was difficult for Cowbridge and Bro took full advantage when they clawed back some tries late into the second half.

Despite some great defence from Sean Davies and Dewi Bennett, Bro ran out winners in a quality game of rugby.

Training will now take place every Thursday lunchtime and after school for year-9. The club will be open to every pupil so please come along and have a go.

NT

ON October 5, Cowbridge's year-8 rugby team played their first fixture of the season, with Bro Morgannwg out for revenge for last season's defeat.

Cowbridge started strongly and before 15 minutes had been played, numerous tries had been scored. Cowbridge had continued to play in the intelligent and stylish manner which they had in the previous year, and did not look like they had not played together in almost five months.

At the end of the game, the score finished 45-5, with the best try of the match going to Tom Williams. Tom picked up the ball on his own line, saw a gap in the defence and never looked back. He ran into the Bro Morgannwg half, and kept on going until he reached the end zone. What a try 'Forrest'!

Well done year-8, you showed your class and definite ability in rugby once again, and came away with the win. Make sure you all attend training on Tuesday after school and Thursday lunchtimes.

SD

Resounding victory

ON October 5, the year-8 football team played Michaelston in the first round of the Cardiff and Vale Cup.

Instantly, Cowbridge went on the offensive, with Moses Gee, Jac Roberts and Liam Murphy linking neatly along the right-hand touchline. A goal was scored inside two minutes, with Oliver Cooper making a trademark run, zig-zagging through the defence.

Olly advanced inside the box and supplied a perfect pass to Rhys Bradshaw, who coolly slotted the ball into the net.

From this moment on, Cowbridge continued to exert the pressure on Michaelston. The second goal was scored by Rhydian Williams, again assisted by Olly.

The next goal came on the 10 minute mark. A ball was played through to Rhys Bradshaw, who unselfishly passed the ball to Olly to smash the ball into the back of the net. The last goal of the half was scored by Lawrence, who passed the ball into the net from the edge of the box, nicely set up by Rhydian.

The first half ended 4-0 to Cowbridge.

The second half continued in the same vein. Cowbridge scored again within five minutes, Rhys supplying a looping header over the goalkeeper and into the top corner.

With Oliver Cooper in fine form, it was inevitable that more goals were going to come from him. Moses cut back inside, played an outstanding through ball to Oliver in space, and he tucked the ball away, curling it into the bottom right corner.

Olly then rounded off his hat-trick by striking a left-footed shot, hitting the post and rebounding into the goal.

Patiently Cowbridge waited until the time was right, and Louis slotted the ball home.

The game was then rounded off by another hat-trick goal by Rhys Bradshaw.

Well done year-8. The defensive unit of Shaun Carpenter, Bevan Howell, Jac Roberts and Dylan Cottle kept the Michaelston attack so quiet. An excellent performance, and the 9-0 scoreline highlights your superb team performance.

See you all on Tuesdays for training!

Players of the match: Oliver Cooper and Rhys Bradshaw.

SD

Gymnasts shine at event

FIFTEEN Barry YMCA gymnasts had a fun and successful outing at the South Central Gymnastics Championships.

Competing against clubs from Bridgend, Merthyr, Caerphilly, Rhondda Cynon Taff and the Vale, the gymnasts enjoyed the competition that was held at the Valleys Gymnastics Academy.

The eight/nine years gymnasts competed first and they made a great start to the day for the Barry club. Erin Gamble (eight) danced her way to second place on floor and also climbed onto the podium to receive her trophy for taking 2nd place overall.

Bria Karim (eight) powered her way to first place when she performed an excellent vault, and she also claimed a ribbon for placing fourth overall.

Dee Clarke (nine) demonstrated her strength on bars claiming second position and also claimed a ribbon for placing fifth overall.

Erin, Bria and Dee added to their tally when they placed second in the team event along with Evie Wong (eight).

Caitlin Meadows (nine), Seren Williams (nine) and Tania Ferguson (eight) also competed in this age group and all successfully completed a number of new skills.

Four Barry gymnasts represented the club in the 10/11 years category. The team of Chloe Gabb (10), Kelsey Cross (10), Tesni Gardiner (10) and Zoe Arnold (11) climbed to the top of the podium when they claimed the team title.

Tesni had another two visits to the podium when she tumbled her way to third place on floor and overall.

Kelsey also got to climb back onto the podium when she showed a rock steady performance on beam to place third place.

Catrin Long (12), Chloe Sullivan (12), Ellice Stockford (12) and Seren Mirza Davies (12) finished off an enjoyable day for the club in the 12/13 years category. They mirrored the success of their younger clubmates by claiming the team title.

Catrin also experienced individual success gaining a third place on beam and a fourth place ribbon in the overall category.

Following their successful performances Bria, Catrin, Dee, Erin and Tesni all gained selection to represent the South Central area at the forthcoming Welsh finals. Good luck to the five gymnasts.

Congratulations to all the gymnasts who competed at the area event. A huge thanks must be sent to the Barry YMCA coaches and helpers who dedicate their time to the club – Aimee McCarthy, Charlotte Gabb, Olivia Parry, Karen Davies, Leanne Jones, Rachel Shepherd, Sarah Arnold and Stacey Webb.

To find out more, contact 01446 724000.

KD

Chess team earn fine win

DESPITE missing their strongest player who is out of action until the new year, the Vale chess team scored what will become a famous victory over rivals Cardiff in the first weekend of this year's Welsh Chess Premier League.

Played on Sunday at Barry's West End Club the Vale team was outgraded by a strong Cardiff team boasting two Welsh internationals and the current Welsh under-20 champion.

In a match with five drawn games the decisive victory came from young Ben Thomas of Penarth who smashed through the defences of his higher graded opponent to deliver checkmate in 22 moves.

Ben's older brother James also had a winning position but in a fine example of 'putting the team first' he offered his opponent a draw so as to take the match score past the winning line.

Earlier in the day the team captain, seeing how well the Thomas Boys were doing, agreed a draw and effectively took up the role of non-playing captain.

Top board, Steve Cunliffe held on magnificently for a draw after a complex struggle against Cardiff's best player, Walter Braun from Austria.

Joe Turner on board two came back from a pawn down to draw against his Welsh international opponent, and on board three, Nigel Ralphs even had winning chances before placing his opponent in a position where he had no choice but to ask for a draw.

So, a superb victory for the Vale has dealt a severe blow to Cardiff's chances of qualifying for Europe this year and the Vale team can move on with pride and confidence to their next game away at Abergavenny.

The Barry Chess Club meets each Monday at their home venue of The West End Club, St Nicholas Road, Barry, CF62 6QY with matches starting at 7.30pm. New players of all ages and standards are welcomed.

PJ

'100 years of Barry Town' celebrated next month

THE Barry Town Supporters Committee has confirmed details of its '100 Years of Barry Town' celebration event, to take place at the Angel Hotel in Cardiff on Friday, November 16 (7.30pm).

Attendees will be met on arrival by a special '100 Years of Barry Town' exhibition of memories and memorabilia – with old match-worn shirts, international caps, vintage programmes, trophies, pennants, classic photographs and more on show.

They will then be treated to a lavish three-course meal, interspersed with specially-made film footage documenting memorable Barry Town matches and goals from across a century of football.

The BTSC is extending an open invitation to anyone who played for or managed a Barry Town side in the past 100 years to come and celebrate this milestone occasion. A number of players and coaches have already confirmed their attendance.

There will be photo opportunities with many of the footballers present, and supporters old and new are welcome to come and meet their heroes of yesteryear.

An added attraction to the evening will be the former Manchester United, Rangers, AC Milan and England midfielder Ray Wilkins.

Recently on the management team at Chelsea and a renowned Sky Sports pundit, Wilkins will be speaking at length about his career and fielding questions from the audience.

The glittering event will also play host to a sporting auction, with proceeds helping the non-profit, BTSC community enterprise to preserve Barry Town football into its second century.

Tickets for the event are on sale now at £40 per head, or £400 for a table of 10.

Call David Cole on 07557 665 847 to book, e-mail: Barry100@LIVE.com or buy online via: www.ticketsource.co.uk/BarryTownSC.

Rooms at the Angel Hotel have been reserved by the BTSC and attendees are welcome to make contact via these channels if they would like to secure one at a special rate.

With almost 100 seats sold, supporters, friends and former Barry Town players are urged to book early to avoid disappointment.

SPONSOR FOR BARRY CELTS

BARRY Celts AFC under-12 football team have a new kit for their first season at 11-a-side which has been kindly sponsored by Les's Barbershop in Wyndham Street, Barry.

Pictured right are the team, coach David Hayes-Knight, and Les Mason, owner of Les's Barbershop, which has been cutting hair since being established in 2010 and specialises in cutting any design or pattern required.

Les said it is always nice to put something back into local clubs, especially when a member of the family has been playing for the club since 2006.

The club are always looking for players to join and our aim is to provide a fun and fair base for all players to enjoy playing football and to get an equal opportunity on the field.

Anyone interested should contact Martin Bradshaw on 07900 327860.

MB

RHOOSE UNDER-9S ARE LOOKING 'COOL'!

LEFT: Rhoose FC under-9s are pictured above with their coach Paul Humphry. They would like to thank their sponsors Cool 2 U mobile air conditioning – the boys certainly look 'Cool' in their new kit!

Local table tennis success

A VETERAN table tennis player from Barry recently won three gold medals at the six nations veteran tournament, held at the Welsh Institute of Sport Cardiff.

George Evans, who is the coach at the Cwm Talwg Community Hall and a former Welsh international player, was really pleased to win the team event for the first time, as although he had often beaten the strong English players, it was the first time that his back up, Roger Thomas, Pontypridd and Dennis Bromage, Swansea, provided the help to beat the 'old enemy' England.

George has won many titles throughout his playing career, including a European gold medal in Bratislava.

Two young players from the Cwm Talwg Club recently competed in their first tournaments.

E Morgan finished a credible fifth in the seven-year-old category and R Evans was runner up in the under-9s event.

CALLING ALL CLUB OFFICIALS!

The GEM want to hear from you with your club's news, match reports and other items of interest. Email us at: *gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk* and let us know what's going on at your club!